FBIS DAILY REPORT

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DISARMAMENT & SALT

U.S.-USSR HOLD CONSULTATIONS ON HUNTER-KILLER SATELLITES

LD1718102Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 17 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Soviet-American consultations were held from 8 to 16 June in Helsinki, to discuss questions connected with the limitation of certain types of activity directed against space equipment and incompatible with peaceful relations between states, including the means and systems used for carrying out such activity.

The USSR delegation at the consultations was led by Khlestov, member of the Collegium of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The delegation of the United States of America was led by Warnke, director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency.

The consultations, which were of a preliminary nature, enabled both countries to understand better each other's respective points of view on these questions. Discussion of the aforementioned questions will be continued. The date of the next meeting will be determined through diplomatic channels.

U.S., PRC CONDEMNED FOR ATTEMPTS TO SUBVERT UNGA SESSION

LD1613212Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Jun 78 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Special correspondents V. Matveyev and M. Sturua dispatch: "United Nations: First Results"]

[Text] New York--The hall and corridors of the UN General Assembly, where the special disarmament session is beginning to formulate the final document following the general discussion, are still busy now. June 12 and 13 here are great days. It will be the first time that such representative emissaries of nongovernmental organizations have spoken from this organization's rostrum. Active contribution to the disarmament process by the international public is an important condition of the successful solution of this vital problem.

The world public now has a clearer idea of who is really interested in ending the arms race and who is opposing this. An understanding of the disposition of forces in the international arena regarding this problem must aid the struggle for a peaceful future for the world. Important proposals and recommendations which the opponents of disarmament and detente will hardly be able to merely brush aside have been submitted to the United Nations. Many speeches in the United Nations are pointing out the close link between disarmament and detente. This forum itself, the idea of which was put forward back at the beginning of the sixties, has become possible under the conditions of detente.

The task is to bury the hatchet of war so deep in the ground that no dark forces can dig it up. Such is the aim of the Soviet proposals on merging political detente with military detente and on holding all-embracing talks on disarmament, including nuclear disarmament.

L.I. Brezhnev stated this in his speech in Prague, when the USSR's proposals regarding practical ways to end the arms race had already been submitted for the consideration of the General Assembly special session. These proposals are a comprehensive, all-embracing and at the same time realistic document, which takes into account the existing balance of forces and which set tasks which are feasible in the near future.

It can boldly be said that the overwhelming majority of delegates at this session support particular points of this program or the program as a whole. Our country has repeatedly stated its readiness to consider carefully any proposals leading to disarmament. We have no desire to monopolize this area. It is important to adopt a realistic position and to take into account the legitimate interests of all states.

Even in its first comment on the speech at the United Nations by A.A. Gromyko, head of the Soviet delegation, the New York TIMES pointed out the approving response of the delegations of the nonaligned countries to the statement that the USSR would never use nuclear weapons against states which renounce production of these weapons and do not station them on their territory.

We are also prepared to go considerably further in insuring a resolute turning point in the struggle to end the arms race if the states which possess large military potentials respond in kind.

Precisely because pressure for disarmament from governments and the broad public has now gained such scope--something graphically confirmed by the present UN General Assembly session--Washington timed actions to coincide with this forum, which were aimed at preventing its success, all for the sake of the old goal: a dangerous new arms spiral. The provocative nature of these schemes is so obvious that even the United States' closest partners in NATO have been careful not to display solidarity with that country. In particular, during the NATO Council session in Washington, they opposed the draft "declaration", couched in an anti-Soviet spirit, with which the White House had hoped to "climax" this meeting. Like other recent statements from official U.S. rostrums, U.S. Vice President W. Mondale's remarks at the United Nations are diametrically opposed in character to what is on the agenda of the UN General Assembly special session.

If the initiators of these--let us be frank--acts of political subversion [politicheskiye diversii] were expecting them to be effective, they miscalculated. Only an insignificantly small number of people shared their view. The clamorous tirades by the Chinese UN delegate have demonstrated, for the umpteenth time, the failure of Peking's leaders to accept the very idea of disarmament and their obsession with Maoist "concepts" which gamble on conflicts, even nuclear conflict--true, with the proviso that China itself is not involved....Are not these the "common interests" of the United States and the PRC about which certain Washington figures--who are obsessed with anti-Soviet schemes, which are as unrestrained as they are adventurist and unrealizable--have been talking irresponsibly of late?!

Meanwhile the General Assembly is gaining pace and actively discussing the focal questions of disarmament. Neither Mondale nor Huang Hua was able to set a negative tone for the assembly. The contrast between the charged atmosphere in Washington and the businesslike atmosphere of the present UN forum is striking. It is noteworthy that the delegates of a number of West European countries are also reaffirming, in the most unambiguous terms, their belief in the cause of detente. A belief based on real facts! Thus, for instance, FRG Chancellor H. Schmidt pointed out in the United Nations that an atmosphere of greater mutual trust than at any time in the last few decades now prevails in Europe.

The countries, which were regarded not so long ago as "mute natives" by the colonial metropolises, are loudly proclaiming their presence as a forcefully determined to make a weighty contribution to solving the urgent problems of our time. Their representatives are identifying those who are blocking these efforts. Madagascar's Foreign Minister Richard pointed out the activity of the West's military-industrial complexes and international corporations as a factor impeding the disarmament process. [paragraph continues]

Algerian Foreign Minister A. Bouteflika spoke of the neocolonialist wars and the imperialist interventions in Asia, Africa and Latin America as permanent "satellites" of the arms race. Adamou, Niger's delegate, declared that "it would be foolhariy to the African countries to allow themselves to be dragged into the arms race."

The United Nations is talking with great unanimity of the need for all countries without exception, primarily all the nuclear powers, to participate in disarmament. The importance of reinforcing the existing commitments to the nonuse of force in international relations and the nonuse of nuclear weapons in a special treaty is being pointed out as a most urgent measure. The need for a ban on the development and production of new types and systmes of weapons of mass destruction is being urgently stated. In this connection, the particular danger of the U.S. plans for production and deployment of neutron weapons is being stressed.

All these are steps which it is possible to implement without procrastination in the name of more radical disarmament measures. Without belittling the importance of the present General Assembly session, the delegates of a number of countries are urging that there be no delay in convening a world disarmament conference, within whose framework it would be possible to reach decisions binding on all governments.

The UN General Assembly special session is continuing its work. No matter how disarmament's opponents fuss, the overwhelming majority of participants in this forum are fully determined to make headway and to strive to end the arms race.

GRIGORYANTS URGES WEST TO FOLLOW EAST TO MILITARY DETENTE

LD190830Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Jun 78 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[A. Grigoryants article: "Military Detente Is Next"]

[Text] "In the face of the destructive might of the stockpiles of armaments of all types which are being accumulated and are constantly growing, specific measures are needed to end the arms race. Both sides are convinced that this is a problem of paramount urgency and importance." These words of the joint declaration adopted on the results of the official visit paid to the FRG by L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, focus the world public's attention on a problem whose solution is urgent: It is time to turn to military detente, to halt the growth of armaments and embark on the real reduction of states' military arsenals.

This problem is a global one. But it has become particularly acute for Europe. It is here that the main forces of the two military-political groupings confront each other most directly. It is here that an enormous arsenal of the most sophisticated means of warfare has been stockpiled. And it is precisely here that NATO circles are beginning a new, extraordinarily dangerous twist of the arms race. The decisions of the recent Washington session of the NATO Council in which heads of state and government took part were aimed particularly at this goal. The so-called "long-term defense program" was adopted covering the next 10-15 years and providing for the further buildup of NATO military potential. According to the most modest calculations its implementation will cost the NATO countries a further $60-80 billion, of which half will be borne by West European taxpayers.

The document provides for an increase in the U.S. military presence in Europe and the joint production of 15 new types of naval and land-based missiles, measures for the preparation of "electronic warfare" and for supplying NATO troops with "protection against chemical weapons," and measures for the standardization and modernization of weapons systems. And all this is in addition to the programs which are already being carried out. The NATO members' military expenditure, which it has been decided henceforth to increase by 3 percent annually, has already reached an astounding level--last year it came to over $165 billion. NATO's technical arsenal is being renovated. The armored, air and missile forces are being rearmed. New lethal weapons are appearing. The Western press is extolling the new "wonder-weapon" of the West German Bundeswehr--the dispersion bombs [bomby rasseivayushchego destviya]--which some people would like to use "in combination" with the neutron weapon.

The NATO circles are trying to justify this whole militarist orgy by the false myth of the "Soviet threat." They allege that the Soviet Union and the other Warsaw Pact states have created for themselves a "military supremacy" in Europe over the NATO countries and are continuing to build up their armed forces. Apologies for theorists like the Belgian General Close are painting a picture of the appearance of Soviet tanks on the Rhine "48 hours after the start of a conflict," while the notorious Lord Chalfont asserts in the New York TIMES, without a twinge of conscience, that the Soviet Union "is preparing for a possible limited nuclear attack in Europe."

The lies from the writings of morally unscrupulous journalists and irresponsible speeches by retired generals have found their way into the statements of certain statesmen and official NATO documents. The NATO reports prepared for the latest session of the bloc's Council in Washington, for instance, contain the absurd premise that "the Soviet Union continues to adhere to aims which if attained would turn it into the world's ruling power."

What aims is the anti-Soviet propaganda campaign pursuing? If we are speaking specifically of the European region, there are several aims. First, the ballyhoo about the "Soviet threat" is designed to justify the further buildup of the arms race and to stifle the public discontent caused by NATO's immoderate military expenditure. Second, the attempts are continuing to instill in the West European public the idea that the "threat from the East" cannot be held back by conventional means. Attempts are again being made to lead to the development of new weapons of great destructive force. Third and last, by intimidating the Europeans with some "supremacy" of the Warsaw Pact forces, the propagandists in generals' uniform and diplomats' frock-coats are seeking to substantiate and justify the Western countries' negative position at the Vienna talks on the reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe.

However thick the smokescreen which NATO circles put up to conceal the immoderate buildup of their offensive potential, the European public is beginning to understand that it is being deceived and deliberately intimidated with the alleged "threat from the East."

"Everyone should know," L.I. Brezhnev said in his speech at the 18th Komsomol Congress, "that the Soviet Union not only does not have aggressive designs and is not building up any 'strike force' in Europe for operations against the West, but, on the contrary, has done and will continue to do everything to ease tension and promote understanding. In contrast to the NATO countries, for a long time now we have not been building up our armed forces in central Europe and we do not intend--I want to stress this most strongly--we do not intend to increase them in the future by a single soldier or a single tank."

One prominent West German observer noted: The level of armaments which has now been reached in NATO and in the Warsaw Pact shows that armament and counterarmament cannot strengthen security. This means that the priority is to find political means of insuring peace.

This statement confirms that more and more people in the West realize how dangerous the path of unrestrained buildup of means of destruction is. In total in Europe the West and the Warsaw Pact countries possess approximately equal numerical strength of armed forces--just over 980,000 men on each side. Of course, balance is not complete equality. Each side has its own armed forces structure. But one thing is certain--there is no "numerical superiority" or "disproportion."

But it is necessary to maintain this balance at such a high level as at present, or is it possible to lower this level without destroying the balance in anyone's favor? The Soviet Union is firmly convinced that it can and must be reduced, because a peace founded on a "balance of terror" cannot be lasting. It is toward this end that the efforts of Soviet diplomacy are directed.

We are striving for a reduction in military confrontation at the Vienna talks by trying to agree on the sole acceptable and just reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe--reduction which will give nobody unilateral advantages. The other day the socialist states put forward a new initiative in the Hofburg Palace, stating their agreement to the establishment, as a result of the reduction, of equal collective levels of numerical strength of the armed forces of NATO and the Warsaw Pact in central Europe--900,000 men each, including 700,000 each in the ground forces. They showed readiness to restrict the reduction in numerical strenghth of armed forces to ground forces, and to carry out a selective reduction and limitation of the types of arms named by the Western side for reduction by the United States and the Soviet Union at the first stage.

The socialist states also proposed that at this stage the Soviet Union and the United States should reduce their ground forces in central Europe by an equal percentage, that is, in proportion to their numbers in that region, as the West advocated.

The European public has received new evidence of how seriously and sincerely the socialist countries are trying to put the Vienna talks on the track of practical preparation of an agreement on the reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe.

The Soviet Union is striving for the high aim of deepening detente in Europe and extending it to the military sphere on a wide diplomatic front, showing the maximum good will and constructive spirit. This is surely indicated by the numerous initiatives put forward by our country. It is sufficient simply to recall the platform of actions put forward by the Soviet Union at the Belgrade meeting. This provides for the participants in the all-European conference to conclude a treaty on renouncing first use of nuclear weapons against each other, and to agree not to extend the military political alliances which confront each other in Europe by introducing new members, as well as other measures.

L.I. Brezhnev's official visit to the FRG made an important contribution to the solution of the entire complex of problems of military detente in Europe. A profound exchange of opinions took place on questions of arms limitation and disarmament and also on efforts aimed at stopping the arms race. Both sides expressed their determination to use all the possibilities and means at their disposal in the interests of really advancing toward the aim of general and complete disarmament under effective international control--disarmament which would embrace both nuclear and conventional weapons. Questions of reducing armed forces and armaments in central Europe were also examined thoroughly. In this the sides proceeded from the principles of non-detriment to the security of any of the sides and from the need to promote the creation of more stable relations in Europe.

Federal Chancellor H. Schmidt, addressing the Bundestag a few days ago, stressed that the policy of reducing tension must be continued despite all difficulties on a realistic basis, decisively and boldly.

Even today it is obvious that the Soviet-West German summit meeting gave new life-giving impetus to the search for a solution to the problems facing Europe, primarily the problem of reducing military confrontation on the continent. It noticeably improved the political climate for the implementation of military detente and concrete measures for lessening military potential in this region of the world.

It is, of course, impossible to ignore the activity of forces in the West which dislike the favorable changes in Europe. In the FRG itself the activity of the military-industrial complex runs counter to the official statements and the pledges Bonn has taken.

New efforts are essential for political detente in Europe to be supplemented by measures of military detente. The agreements reached on the Rhine at the Soviet-West German summit meeting created a solid basis for both our peoples to make a weighty contribution to the solution of this problem. As is vividly attested by the Soviet initiatives, our country will not be found wanting here.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD181530Y Moscow International Service in Russian 0730 GMT 18 Jun 78 LD

["International Observers Roundtable" program, with moderator Valeriy Kosovan, All-Union Radio foreign policy commentator; Nikolay Khokhlov, an IZVESTIYA observer; and Nikolay Shishlin, international affairs journalist]

UN Disarmament Session

[Text] [Kosovan] Good day, esteemed comrades. We would like to begin this discussion with a question which remains the most important and on which the fates of all peoples depend--the question of disarmament, of the struggle to strengthen peace and deepen detente. As Leonid Ilich Brezhnev stressed, the main danger which threatens world peace and tranquillity at present is without doubt the continuing arms race. To stop it, to prevent the world from proceeding, under the momentum of and by virtue of the insane logic of increasing military arsenals, to a nuclear catastrophe--that is the root of the matter now. The struggle to end the arms race and to strengthen detente is a struggle in which millions of people are participating. It is very important to note that, in spite of all the complexities, the tendency toward detente remains the dominant tendency in international life. Disarmament is always at the center of attention of Soviet policies. The most essential, significant goal for ending the arms race and for the security of the whole world would be the successful and quick resolution of the Soviet-U.S. talks on the limitation of strategic offensive weapons. A conclusion of an agreement in this area would be an important stimulus for speeding up other talks on disarmament.

[Khokhlov] Let me say, Valeriy Ivanovich, that it is impossible to ignore that the fewer the remaining unsolved issues in these talks and the clearer the objective possibilities for deepening detente--including those in Soviet-U.S. relations--the more persistent are the opponents of such policies, and the more active are the apologists of the arms race, especially in the United States. Politicians, generals, diplomats, scientists and various advisers at the top of the U.S. administration are proposing a global adventurist course as an alternative to peaceful coexistence. At the moment, U.S. policy now clearly includes whipping up the arms race, which has already been taken up on a large scale, and a steady increase in military spending. Not content with the adoption of a record military budget, which has reached almost $130 billion a year, and the development of newer weapons of mass destruction, including the neutron weapon, the United States has begun a type of Western mobilization to speed up military preparations. Clear evidence of this is the result of the recent NATO Council session in Washington, which took place at the same time as the UN General Assembly special session on Disarmament.

[Shishlin] Indeed, two approaches are in conflict: one in favor of disarmament, the approach favored by the Soviet Union, the socialist countries and other peaceloving states; and the second approach in favor of stepping up the arms race, pursued by the United States and imposed on its NATO partners. In itself, of course, the work of the UN General Assembly special session on disarmament is a distinctive phenomenon of our age and is characteristic of the present stage of international relations. The very fact that the representatives of 149 countries are discussing the problem of disarmament reflects the people's concern over the continuing increases in military spending and reflects the interest which countries have in ending this insane, wasteful and ruinous arms race. At the center of the session's attention were the proposals of the Soviet delegation. This is natural, for as a whole, it is precisely the implementation of the Soviet Union's comprehensive program which would facilitate a decisive turn away from the arms race toward disarmament.

Well what is the Soviet Union proposing--and its proposals are supported by the socialist countries, the nonalined states and many other countries in the world?

The Soviet Union is in favor of halting the production of nuclear weapons of all types, in favor of halting the production and the banning of all other types of weapons of mass destruction. The Soviet Union proposes the cessation of the creation of new types of conventional arms with a large destructive force. It is proposing the refusal to expand armies or to increase the conventional weapons by permanent members of the Security Council and also by countries linked with them by military agreements. In other words, our country is putting forward proposals for a complete cessation of the further quantitative and qualitative growth in arms and armed forces of states which possess a large military potential and, by that fact, to create the conditions for their subsequent reduction.

And of course, the world did not fail to notice the very important declaration by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev in his speech at Prague Castle, when he stressed that there is no type of armament which the Soviet Union would not be prepared to limit or eradicate on a reciprocal basis, with a strict observance of the principle of the equal security of the sides. One can say for certain that the work of the UN General Assembly special session on disarmament and the numerous discussions which are being conducted around these vital problems are already fertile enough ground to search out practical solutions to the problem of disarmament and to move forward precisely along this path.

PRAVDA on U.S. Policy

[Kosovan] Nikolay Petrovich has already mentioned that a NATO Council session has been held. In yesterday's issue of PRAVDA a very important article was published on the present policies of the U.S. Government. This article gives a thorough and accurate appraisal of the activities of the Carter administration and those decisions which were made by NATO on 30-31 May. These are very dangerous decisions, capable of evoking a serious worsening of the international situation. What does the long-term program of arming, calculated for years ahead, mean? What does the creation of new types of weapons mean? What is meant by the billions of dollars, which are being pured into a new stage in military spending?

[Shishlin] On a philosophical level, in the United States--and not just in the United States--attempts are being made to justify this by the balance of terror theory; but this balance of terror, frankly speaking, already exists and it is far from a guarantee of a stable and reliable peace. Peace, in this case, is poisoned by the venom of suspicion, mistrust and mutual hostility. On a propaganda level the authors of this program--this long-term program calculated by stepping up the arms race--are attempting to justify it by referring to the fact that, allegedly, the Soviet Union is stepping up its defense effort and that this is creating a threat to the security of the USA and its allies.

[Kosovan] Moreover, Nikolay Vladimirovich, as proof of this thesis, the most varied outpourings are being cited, beginning with data from space reconnaissance, the statements of the leading military figures from the U.S. intelligence services and so on. Although, in actual fact--and this is recognized by both the United States and other NATO countries--an approximate equality and an approximate parity of forces exists between NATO and the Warsaw Pact, between the Soviet Union and the United States.

[Shishlin] You yourself have said that it has often been explained, sufficiently clearly and authoritatively, by Soviet leaders that the Soviet Union has never been and never will be the initiator of this arms race.

Although our country is naturally taking measures to insure its security and the security of its friends and allies, these measures do not go beyond a guarantee of the essential needs of defense. But on a practical level, the decisions of the NATO Council session, and this is very precisely and clearly shown in the PRAVDA editorial article, cast doubt on all the efforts which have already been spent on the present disarmament talks. This applies to the talks on the limitation of strategic offensive weapons. Indeed, before the meeting between Comrade Gromyko, Carter and Vance--the last one in Washington and New York--the American press said that an agreement was practically 95 percent ready. Certain optimists said that it was 99 percent ready.

But the United States did not put forward a single constructive proposal during the new round of talks. It is artificially impeding these talks. It is known that constructive notes have appeared in Vienna at the talks on the reduction of armed forces and arms in central Europe. They are linked with the fact that the Soviet Union has taken into consideration certain changes in the Western powers' position and has made major proposals which meet these positions half-way. But these proposals, which are now being discussed, are being essentially canceled out by the NATO session, because the Western powers are saying, before the completion of the talks and before the adoption of any decisions, that they will increase both the numbers of their armed forces and the qualitative level of their arms for a number of years ahead.

[Kosovan] Nikolay Vladimirovich, the present situation is indeed very serious. So in that sense how do you evaluate future prospects?

[Shishlin] Forecasts are not a very worthwhile thing, especially in politics. But all the same, if one takes a closer look at the reaction which was aroused by the decisions of the NATO Council session in the United States and in other NATO member-countries, one may definitely say that there are not all that many champions of that policy, although those champions are of course influential. The international public's growing protests against increasing the arms race are also very important. Leonid Ilich Brezhnev stressed, in his speech in Prague, that the cessation of the arms race and the struggle for that high aim cannot be the affair of governments alone or the affair of people invested with power: It can and must become the affair of all political forces, all public organizations, all mass movements. The fact that the front of people, the front of forces favoring an end to the arms race is widening and multiplying, this is an undoubtedly promising phenomenon. The uniting of the efforts of all peace-loving states, of all realistically thinking political circles and of the broad international public is destined to create a climate which will render the line aimed at increasing the arms race--which is pursued by the NATO countries, especially the United States--impossible and will give way to a serious and thorough search for practical solutions. This is what the Soviet Union itself calls for, unswervingly supporting the noble aim of striving to curtail military spending and free the world of military arsenals, including nuclear ones.

[Kosovan] Alongside the intensification of its military preparations, the change in the United States' course is also expressed in the transition to a blatant interventionist, neocolonialist policy toward the countries of Africa; evidence of this is the events in Zaire. Our press, radio and television are giving sufficiently full and systematic information on the recent events in the Zairian province of Shaba, formerly Katanga. It seems now that one may draw certain conclusions and make some generalizations stemming from the policy of a whole range of Western states--united by their membership in the aggressive NATO bloc and led by the United States--with regard to this African country.

One may say with every justification that this is the first time since the end of the war in Vietnam that the United States has so demonstratively and brazenly interfered in the internal affairs of a formally independent African republic. As is known, the Vietnam adventure introduced a split in American society, and millions of ordinary Americans began to think about the agonizing question: On what basis and by what right does the United States move its strike forces with unusual ease to support rotten regimes? In defense of a Ngo Dinh Diem, having something in common with America's national interests? Of course not. There is a mass of statements by responsible American figures on this account account, the essence of which is that Vietnam should never be repeated anywhere. Suddenly in Zaire, in Shaba, there is the conception of an African Vietnam--that is, the leading capitalist power's gradual creeping into military action, screened with a garnish of NATO and non-NATO participants in most real occupation of this key, in the economic sense, province.

A while ago the WALL STREET JOURNAL, which reflects the views of U.S. big business, complained that U.S. policy in Africa was allegedly some sort of mixture of ambiguity and uncertainty. We shall not go into details, but if such a period in U.S. policy concerning Africa as a whole existed in the recent past, the events in Shaba have canceled out the relative uncertainty and replaced it with a blatantly aggressive course.

The theoretical basis for the new approach to Africa was given by Brown, the U.S. secretary for defense, in the following words: The vast Continent of Africa, he said, deserves attention, not only for its strategically important geographical position but also for its growing value as a source of raw materials. Maintaining access to African raw materials is increasingly important for the United States. It would not be true, however, to speak only of American monopolies showing increased interest in Zaire as a source of valuable raw materials. The greedy hands of monopolisitc associations in other capitalist countries are also reaching for these riches. This was shown quite clearly during the Brussels conference on Ziare.

Brussels Conference on Zaire

Sitting beside me at the round table is Nikolay Petrovich Khokhlov, one of the well-known international affairs journalists in our country. He has worked for many years in the countries of Africa as an IZVESTIYA correspondent, and as far as Zaire is concerned, then, figuratively speaking, that country with all its problems probably occupies more than one page in the creative biography of Nikolay Petrovich Khokhlov. Therefore, now over to you, Nikolay Petrovich.

[Khokhlov] The Brussels pool, as the conference on Zaire in the Belgian capital has come to be known, gave substantial proof of the annexionist aspirations of international capital with regard to Zaire's natural wealth. Taking part in this assemblage were eight NATO countries, as well as representatives of Japan and Iran. Saudi Arabia may also be called a potential participant, as it at first agreed to send its own representative to Brussels, but then said that it would be satisfied with information on the course of the talks and their results. The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the International Monetary Fund and the European Economic Community sent their commissars to Brussels. What did the participants in the Brussels meeting decide, and on what did they agree?

A so-called mixed committee has been formed, which will control all of Zaire's economic life. President Mobutu of Zaire has made a demand: He needs a loan, and very quickly at that, of $1 billion. This money will of course be found, but this is the question: For what purpose will it be given and to whom? To what branches of Zaire's national economy should it be directed?

The answer which is given, for example, by the UPI agency, from the lips of its own correspondent in Kinshasa, runs as follows: The Government of Zaire is considered one of the most rotten on the continent, and consequently it should on no account be entrusted with such vast sums of money. Hence a recommendation: Effective control of the entire economy of Zaire must be taken into one's own hands. Thus an international corporation is being formed, led by American magnates, which will implement control of the whole Zairian economy. An agreement has already been reached on the fact that the so-called international bank of Zaire will be headed by a Western financial figure. The independence of Zaire is turning into a rather conditional concept.

I would like to draw attention to the following fact. While talking about the unity of military and political action by the Western powers in Shaba, one must not lose sight of their different positions on the approach to Zaire's economic problems as a whole. The representatives of Britain and Italy made statements to the effect that before setting aside allocations for Zaire they must know precisely where they would be directed and how they would be spent. This position reflects distrust of the Zairian authorities and contains the seed of future disagreements between the NATO countries over exploitation of Zaire's wealth. And of course Belgian capital, which is increasingly and more and more energetically being squeezed out by U.S. and French capital, is by no means delighted by this competition with its far more powerful allies.

[Kosovan] One needs to realize fully the danger of PRC penetration of Zaire. This is a problem which has been posed in all its acuteness by events in Shaba. Prior to this the Zairian president had been in Peking twice. Now return visits to Kinshasa by highly placed PRC officials have started. After Huang Hua, the minister of foreign affairs, a military delegation from Peking has gone there. The PRC is now strengthening ties not so much with Zaire as with the NATO military circles, and in particular with the Pentagon. In Zaire, the PRC leaders see a confirmation of their theory of the inevitability of a new world war on the one hand, and on the other they are striving to use events in Shaba to revive the atmosphere of the cold war in international relations and to raise fresh and ever more complicating obstacles to the general process of detente.

[Khokhlov] Even beforehand, no one had any doubts about the PRC's aggressiveness. The events in Shaba and Peking's interference in them ought to be considered together with other acts by that country in the international arena. It is sufficient to point out Peking's provocative policy toward the democratic Republic of Vietnam and a whole number of other Asian states in order to understand the incontestable truth, that the present PRC leaders are ready to rush into any adventure and to enter into any alliance with any aggressive circles to unleash the danger of military conflicts. It is no coincidence that the PRC now appears in the Western press under the name of the NATO of the East. At present one can speak of the constant readiness of the PRC to whip up tension and to create hotbeds of war in any part of the world--this is indisputable in itself--and to what extent and where this great-power and extremely militaristic policy of the present PRC bosses will be used by the imperialist West.

We have already had an opportunity to touch upon the position of France and the role of French military circles in the events in Zaire and also in certain other African countries. The following thoroughly founded characteristic is evident: By going into Shaba, France has entered into the military organization of the aggressive NATO bloc, which it formally left a few years ago. This is what Louis de Guiringaud, French minister of foreign affairs, said in an interview with the Tunisian weekly DIALOGUE a week ago. The French paratroops, he said, have remained in Shaba to search for our missing citizens. These arguments, if one may call them such, are hardly the best examples of verbal maneuvering.

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New independent Africa is now faced with collective intervention, which is manifested with particular force in the notorious alliance between the Pentagon and the PRC, which is supported by all the military, revenge-seeking and colonialist circles of the Western countries who have lost their African possessions and in which selective Arab and African regimes that are dependent on the West, have become so readily involved. Africa is now faced with the greatest of all the dangers that have occurred in the course of the liberation movement and the formation of sovereign states.

Now, even in the West itself, no one believes the empty and quite unfounded assurances that the Soviet Union and Cuba are allegedly involved in the events in Shaba. The pitiable camouflage has been cast aside. In Africa as in Europe, lies do not get one far. The imperialist West, on this occasion in Shaba, have thrown off the mask of the friends and defenders of the rights of the African population, and are acting as a gendarme suppressing the national liberation movement and as the dangerous and cunning enemy of all sovereign Africa.

Italian Referenda

[Rosovan] Now, comrades, let us return to events in Europe. As you are aware, nationwide referenda were held in Italy on 11 and 12 June on the fate of two laws: the Reale law on the maintenance of public order and the law on party financing. Over 30 million people voted. Italian and foreign observers attached exceptionally great importance to the referenda. The fact is that, just as the partial elections in May, they were a sort of barometer of the moods of broad circles and an important indicator of the balance of political forces in the country after the end of the protracted government crisis and in particular the killing of Moro, chairman of the National Council of the ruling Christian Democratic Party. Let us recall that the death of the Christian Democratic Party leader served as a pretext for fresh reactionary attacks upon the democratic institutions of the Italian Republic. The laws being voted on had played on important role in strengthening those institutions.

The law on party financing, which was adopted in April 1974 and which provided for allocations from the state budget to a party's fund in proportion to its number of seats in Parliament, has created favorable conditions for the fight against corruption. This is explained by the fact that influential economic groups, both Italian and foreign, on more than one occasion, had used socalled black funds to give financial support to the bourgeois parties. This was, of course, done in exchange for all sorts of illegal privileges and concessions, such as lessening taxes or pushing through laws facilitating the activities of the companies or burying judicial investigations into various machinations or law violations. Each party is now obliged to provide information on all income sources. Private donations are now allowed only through special state bodies.

Naturally, this was not to the liking of certain circles, who wanted to use the referendum to restore the previous state of affairs. Nor was there a lesser struggle over the law on the maintenance of public order. Even a few weeks ago the majority of the parties expressed their opposition to a referendum on the Reale law and proposed that necessary amendments be made to the law, in accordance with the results of parliamentary debate. But this proposal ran into very fierce resistance by rightwing groups and also the radicals and so-called Proletarian Democracy Association, which to all intents and purposes alined themselves with them. They did everything they could to prevent the adoption of a new law during the time limit set by the constitution. If they had succeeded in getting the repeal of the law on the maintenance of public order at a time when the new bill had not been approved, they would actually have facilitated the activities of the terrorist underground.

[Shishlin] It seems to me that there was yet another piece of political cunning in the preparations for the voting. By the imposition of a referendum, the opponents of democracy were striving to torpedo the parliamentary majority agreement, which had legally recognized the participation of communists in running the state. It is no accident that the preparations for the voting coincided with attempts by the rightwingers to drive a wedge between the parties making up the majority.

[Kosovan] Quite so, Nikolay Vladimirovich. However, the intrigues of the reactionaries did not succeed. Responding to the call of the democratic forces--the Communists, the Socialists, the Christian Democrats, the Republicans and the Social Democrats--the overwhelming majority--about 77 percent of the Italian electorate--voted for retention of the Reale Law, and over 56 percent were against rescinding the law on party financing. They thereby demonstrated afresh their political maturity and determination to rebuff any maneuvers by reactionary circles, who are striving, under cover of demagogic slogans, to destabilize the situation in the country.

Leone Resignation

I should like to speak of another important political event in Italy. On 15 June, President Leone resigned. This decision was made by Leone after accusations had been made against him of tax avoidance and involvement in the Lockheed bribery scandal, which is sadly well-known in this regard. The voting in the elections for the new Italian president will start on 29 June. In accordance with the country's constitution, the president is elected at a joint parliamentary session with the participation of the regions. If one considers the possibility of several rounds being held, then the voting may last several days. At present the duties of president are being carried out by Fanfani, chairman of the Senate.

With that, esteemed comrades, we come to the end of our roundtable talk today. Thank you for your attention. All the best to you.

OPEC MINISTERS CONFERENCE BEGINS IN GENEVA

LD171901Y Moscow TASS in English 1900 GMT 17 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Geneva, June 17, TASS--A conference of ministers of 13 oil-expcsting countries, members of the OPEC, opened behind closed doors here today.

The conference agenda was not announced. But in the opinion of local observers the ministers are to discuss the problem of crude oil prices. This problem has taken on point because of a considerable decline of the rate of exchange of the American dollar, which is used to this day for fixing prices for oil supplied by the OPEC countries.

TEXT OF WFTU STATEMENT SCORING ATTACK ON SOCIALIST UNIONS

LD161201Y Moscow TRUD in Russian 11 Jun 78 p 3 LD

[Apparent text of "WFTU Statement Against New Slanderous Attacks on the Socialist Countries"]

[Text] On the eve of the 64th session of the ILO General Conference, now being held in Geneva, there have been increasingly prequent attacks on the socialist countries in connection with attempts by individuals to set up so-called "free" trade union organizations in certain of these countries.

The organizers of the slanderous attacks are interfering in the internal affairs of other trade union centers in an attempt to mislead the world trade union movement and to prove that "other trade union forces" supposedly exist in the countries of socialism. In reality, though, it is a question of renegades--"dissidents" who have nothing to do with the working people and trade unions of these countries.

The WFTU regretfully points out that the leaders of the World Confederation of Labor [WCL] and the ICFTU have fallen for this provocation, whose aims have nothing to do with protecting the working people's interests. The leaders of these trade union centers have sent the ILO complaints, which speak of "violations of trade union rights" included in Convention No 87, which are allegedly occuring in certain socialist countries.

Let us recall that in the socialist countries more than 90 percent of the working people active work in truly democratic trade union organizations, possessing complete freedom to exercise their rights and to participate in resolving all questions of socioeconomic and cultural development--a fact which has no parallel in any capitalist country.

It should be emphasized that the new slanderous attacks take the same direction as the efforts of imperialism's militarist circles, which are seeking to hinder the process of the relaxation of international tension and the development of cooperation among the peoples.

They are being undertaken precisely at a time when working people and all progressive forces are being mobilized to make every effort to ban the neutron bomb and other types of weapons of mass destruction and to achieve positive disarmament agreements; when the crisis of the capitalist system and the activities of multinational corporations demand the broadest unity of action on the part of the trade union movement; when the people must repulse imperialism's aggressive sallies, an example of which can be provided by the recent Franco-Belgian invasion of Zaire; when fascism and repressive regimes--imperialism's henchmen--are annihilating thousands of people in Chile, Uruguay, southern Africa, Israeli-occupied Arab territories, South Korea and other parts of the world.

Against the background of all this, we cannot fail to draw attention to the new wave of attacks on the socialist countries, although it is precisely these countries which given effective and real support to the working people of the world who are struggling for their freedom and independence.

Loyal to the decisions of the recent Ninth World Trade Union Congress, in which approximately 1,000 delegates participated, representing 230 million working people from more than 140 countries, including many representatives of organizations belonging to the ICFTU and the WCL, the WFTU Secretariat is convinced that only the path toward cooperation and solidarity among trade unions throughout the world can lead to the realization of the working people's main aims.

The WFTU Secretariat urges the friendly organizations belonging to the federation to actively oppose the new slander campaign against the socialist countries' trade unions, which people are trying to mount with the aim of sowing mistrust and creating a situation which does not accord with the spirit of cooperation and united action among working people.

USSR ISSUES REBUTTAL TO CARTER'S ANNAPOLIS SPEECH

LD162102Y Moscow TASS in English 2045 GMT 16 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, June 16 TASS--On June 17 the paper PRAVDA and other central papers carry an article "On the Present Policy of the U.S. Government". Follows the text of the article [which appears on page 4 of PRAVDA, and in the other central dailies, without attribution; Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0730 GMT on 17 June calls it an "editorial article"]:

Recent facts indicate that changes dangerous to the cause of peace are taking place in the policy of the USA. An acute struggle has been going on for quite a time now in the ruling circles of that country over questions of detente, relations with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. And as time goes on, there are more and more signs that the representatives of groupings that would like to undermine detente and return the world to the cold war, to new confrontations and unrestrained military rivalry are beginning to take the upper hand. This is testified not only by speeches coming from the President and a number of other high-ranking U.S. officials, but also by Washington's concrete deeds.

Contrary to the aspirations of the peoples to put an end to the arms race, the U.S. is taking the course of whipping it up, is adopting new vast plans for building up its military power, and even for decades ahead. At the same time negotiations with the Soviet Union on strategic arms limitation are being deliberately slowed down.

The U.S. Government is undertaking also actions whose purpose it is difficult to evaluate in any other way, than as the deliberate worsening of bilateral relations with the USA [PRAVDA has "USSR"]. There is no end to attempts at interfering in our country's internal affairs. The ties and contacts between the two countries are being restricted by U.S. unilateral actions.

The opponents of good USA-USSR relations are seeking a common language with the aggressive anti-Sovietism of the Chinese rulers who loudly proclaim detente and peace to be a fraud, and war--the only real prospect.

The USA, lastly, has become the main inspirer of a new colonialism in Africa--of a policy of armed interventions and open interference in the affairs of African states, of suppressing the national-liberation movements.

All these tendencies in the current policy of the USA were revealed with particular clarity at the recent session of the NATO Council. Encouraging its accomplices, nudging on those who vacillate, pressuring the dissenting members of the bloc, the U.S. did its best to lead it once again along the path of the cold war and of whipping up the arms race.

Implementing a turn-about in politics on such a broad front is, of course, no simple matter. It has to be somehow "justified". For these purposes attempts are being made this time again to blame the Soviet Union and other socialist countries for the worsening of the international situation. The makers of Washington's "new" policy are trying to put it on some 'theoretical' base, exaggerating in every way the elements of rivalry and belittling the importance of cooperation in USSR-USA relations. Some members of the administration, for example, the presidential assistant Zbigniew Brzezinski, did this so grossly and clumsily, that they gave rise to a lot of confusion in the minds of both U.S. allies and their own compatriots.

An attempt to clarify things, as was reported, was made in President James Carter's recent speech at Annapolis. However the U.S. President obviously failed to introduce clarity into American policy, above all, into its policy in regard to the USSR.

He failed for the simple reason that his speech was an attempt to reconcile the irreconcilable: assurances of loyalty to the ideas of detente and of improving Soviet-American relations with unconcealed attacks addressed at the Soviet Union, expressions of respect for the peaceableness and staunchness of the Soviet people, who lost 20 million of their sons and daughters in the war against Hitler's aggression, with so preconceived and distorted a description of Soviet realities as one has not encountered even in the most ill-wishing American papers since the times of the cold war.

The U.S. President and his councillors may rest assured--this speech was read in the Soviet Union with attention and was objectively assessed. Nor were the positive remarks it contained left unnoticed, which indicate that the U.S. leaders cannot but take into account that detente enjoys sufficiently broad support in the country's political circles and among the American public.

But if this speech is to be taken for a "programme" one, as it was preliminarily publicized, rather than dispel, it increased the doubts about the course taken by the USA. Suffice it to recall President James Carter's statement contained in it to the effect that the Soviet Union should "choose either confrontation or cooperation" and that the USA is prepared to meet either choice.

To put the matter this way is to address it wrongly--the Soviet Union has long ago and unequivocally made its choice in favor of peace and cooperation. Yet, the way this question is posed by the U.S. President may only indicate that it is exactly the USA, to be more precise--the present American administration, which has not yet made the final choice, or rather, is trying to depart from the principles of relations worked out earlier together with the USSR, which include the recognition of the fact that in a nuclear age there is no acceptable alternative to peaceful coexistence. It is apparently not fortuitous that, while enumerating in that same speech the United States' good works in favour of detente, the President omitted two very important documents: the principles of relationships between the USSR and the USA, and the agreement on averting nuclear war. Meanwhile, it is precisely in these documents that the fact that the two powers made their choice in favor of detente, and the mutual commitments stemming from it are stressed with special force.

At present, shaping out clearly in U.S. policy is a line towards whipping up the arms race, which has already assumed tremendous scope, and towards the steadfast build-up of military spending. Not content with the adoption of a record high military budget, which has reached nearly 130 billion dollars a year, with the elaboration of ever new systems of mass annihilation weapons, the neutron bomb included, the United States has started a kind of mobilisation of the West towards speeding up military preparations.

This is clearly testified by the results of the recent Washington session of the NATO Council, held, moreover, with a cynical frankness that is an affront to world public opinion, during the sittings of the special disarmament session of the UN General Assembly. The Washington meeting ended with the adoption of an additional arms race programme, its cost coming to the tremendous sum of 80 billion dollars.

In accordance with long-standing practice, attempts were made to justify these measures by false references, as if they are merely a 'reply' to the policy of the Soviet Union which, don't you see, is trying to attain a 'military superiority' over the West. The leaders of our party and state have repeatedly pointed to the utter unsoundness of such assertions. Quite recently, for example, in an interview for the West German paper VORWARTS, Leonid Brezhnev, confirmed once again: "For its part the Soviet Union believes that an approximate equality and parity is quite sufficient for needs of defence. We do not set ourselves the goal of attaining military superiority. We also know that this very concept becomes pointless in the presence of today's huge arsenals of already stockpiled nuclear weapons and means for their delivery."

The U.S. cannot claim ignorance of these and other responsible statements of this kind, made by the leadership of the Soviet Union.

In fact, when it comes to an overall assessment of the balance of forces, whether speaking of strategic arms or armed forces and armaments in central Europe--assertions about a Soviet "military threat", or "Soviet superiority" are absolutely groundless. This is testified not only by Soviet statements, but by official American documents and speeches by U.S. leaders themselves. Not a single one of them contains data indicating Soviet superiority. On the contrary, perhaps unwillingly, in a roundabout way, they do admit equality and approximate parity. What, then, is the source of the American and NATO leaders' concern? It is a matter, they say, not of today, but of tomorrow, that the Soviet Union might gain military superiority in the future (It was precisely in this manner, by the way, that the matter was posed in President Carter's speech at the NATO Council session in May).

But the USSR and its allies have no less grounds for anxiety about the morrow, particularly in the face of the adopted long-term programmed for modernising and building up NATO's military potential. And still more important--has not the entire course of events of the last decades proved the futility of attempts to remove invented threats by whipping up the arms race? Does not this experience indicate that a peaceful, safe future can only be secured along another road--the road of agreements on limiting and reducing arms? And the greater one's concern for the future, the more consistently, the more persistently one must strive to achieve such agreements.

It is fitting here to examine an extremely important question--that of the attitude to disarmament negotiations, a matter that may be regarded as an acid test in clarifying the true intentions of the sides.

Let us start with the Vienna negotiations on reducing armed forces and armaments in central Europe. On April 19 this year the Western countries submitted new proposals which signified, however small, but a step forward. This is how they were assessed by the countries of the Warsaw Treaty, which stated that, striving to take the talks out of a blind alley, they would shortly submit counter-proposals. And on June 8 they submitted such proposals, constructive proposals, signifying a big stride towards the Western position in the name of ensuring the attainment, at long last, of a reciprocally acceptable agreement. But the West did not even bother to wait for these proposals and already at the May session of the NATO Council, and to the accompaniment of a deafening campaign about a Warsaw Treaty arms "build-up", adopted the aforementioned long-term programme of military construction. How can such an approach facilitate the success of the talks? Another question is also in place. Why is the proposal of the Warsaw Treaty countries to freeze the armed forces in central Europe at the present level [PRAVDA adds "until the conclusion of an agreement"] not being adopted for four years now? What could be more effective in removing fears about the future?

Let us now turn to the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks. These talks, aimed at working out a new agreement on limiting strategic arms, have been going on, as is known, for many years, and agreement has already been reached on an overwhelming majority of questions. The Soviet Union is doing everything in its power for the successful finalization of remaining questions of a reciprocally acceptable basis and the earliest conclusion of the preparations for the agreement. For this purpose it is constantly submitting concrete and constructive proposals.

Such proposals were submitted during the recent talks of A.A. Gromyko, the foreign minister of the USSR, with President James Carter and Secretary of State Cyrus Vance.

However, verbally recognizing the importance of concluding an agreement, the American leadership actually did not display readiness to discuss concretely the still unresolved issues. In general, it did not submit any proposals of its own.

Moreover, absurd statements were made, which the American press, too, could not assess otherwise than unacceptable to the Soviet Union--the United States, you see, would wait until the USSR accepted the American proposals.

Noteworthy also is another point. Much is being said now in the United States, in the official circles among others, about the difficulties with which the ratification of a future agreement could meet in the Senate. But the government itself, obviously, does not hasten to assume a definite stand, to start upholding the agreement in Congress and in the eyes of public opinion by denying the various falsehoods, to which the arms limitation opponents resort in respect to the future agreement. On the contrary, in this complicated situation many government leaders are busy stirring up mistrust towards the Soviet Union, spreading lies about the "Soviet military threat". Is there anything surprising, therefore, in the fact that the atmosphere around the future agreement is not clearing but rather becoming even more complicated. [PRAVDA text omits word "even."]

Artificial complications are also being created in the other negotiations on disarmament. Despite official denials, a line is actually being pursued to link the disarmament negotiations with other absolutely unrelated questions. As to other negotiations, it appears that an attempt is being made to use them merely to cover up the militaristic policy.

Thus, under the cover of discussing the problem of restricting international armaments trade, and contrary to the U.S. President's election promises, 11,300 million dollars worth of armaments were delivered abroad by the U.S.A. in 1977, according to official figures, and in 1978 it is planned to increase the value of their sales to 13,200 million dollars.

What grounds in the light of all these facts does the United States have to sound the alarm about the Soviet Union's desire to achieve "military superiority"? What grounds? No, it is not these concocted dangers that the U.S. [PRAVDA uses "Washington"] fears in reality, but precisely equality, parity. It does not want its preservation, expecting to establish its own military superiority by means of new lunges in the arms race and by putting a brake on the negotiations. It goes without saying that this runs counter to the initial principle of equality and equal security of sides, agreed upon by the USSR and the United States. The USSR does not intend to violate it, but it will not allow this principle to be violated by others. Yes, it will not allow this to happen.

Along with stepped up military preparations, the changes in the U.S. course find expression also in transition to an openly interventionist, neocolonialist policy vis-a-vis the countries of Africa. This is borne out by the events in Zaire, armed interference in the internal affairs of this country by several Western states under the political and military leadership of Washington, plans to include these or other African states in the sphere of NATO activities, attempts to knock together imperialist collective armed forces to suppress the liberation struggle in that continent. And here again concoctions about the "Soviet threat" to Africa, about "Soviet-Cuban interference" in its affairs are resorted to as a diverting manoeuvre. Even the already refuted inventions on this score are being upheld as before without any shame.

In the meantime, Moscow learnt about the events in Zaire from reports of Western news services. There are in general no Soviet men or Cubans in any capacity whatsoever in Shaba. Just as there are no copper, cobalt or uranium mines, belonging to the USSR, in that land. They are all at the disposal of the Western nations, primarily the United States.

The facts are being grossly distorted in other cases, too. The Soviet Union and Cuba have rendered military assistance to Angola, whose independence was opposed by troops of the Republic of South Africa and white mercenaries from NATO countries, and also necessary support to Ethiopia, which was subjected to Somalian aggression.

This assistance was rendered at the request of the lawful governments, in full conformity with the norms of international law and the United Nations Charter. Only those can come out against this assistance, who, instead of an independent Angola, would prefer the domination of the South African radicalists over that country, who would welcome Ethiopia's dismemberment or even her liquidation as an independent state. Both this and that would, probably, fully satisfy some people in Washington. But what have the interests of Africa and the interests of relaxation of tension got to do with it?

After all, there are, indeed, real problems in Africa, not like the far-fetched "Soviet-Cuban interference" concoction. They include the liquidation of the consequences of colonial domination, strengthening of the statehood of young nations, acceleration of their economic and social development. They also include such explosive problems as persisting racial oppression, white minority rule in Rhodesia, Namibia, South Africa. And if the U.S. Government were to exert even a fraction of the zeal and effort, with which it is combatting the mythical "Soviet-Cuban threat", to promote the solution of the said problems, this could rid the much suffered African Continent of disasters and bloodshed.

However, people in Washington are now preoccupied with something else--struggle to lift the restrictions on U.S. armed interference in Africa, adopted by the congress in 1975, to create a mechanism within the framework of a group of states, which have a liking for colonialism and racislism, that would allow them to exercise colonialist gendarme's functions in that continent, recruit henchmen from among representatives of reactionary, corrupt, aggressive regimes under the hypocritical slogans of "African solidarity".

But this policy is doomed in our epoch. It will not break the united will of the independent states and freedom-loving peoples of Africa, their resolution to uphold the independence of their countries, there [their] free internal development.

The changes, occurring in the policy of the present U.S. administration, have also affected, as it was noted, the sphere of bilateral Soviet-American relations. And along many lines for that matter. One cannot help realizing that this leads to the erosion of the yet very modest foundation of mutual confidence, which was created yhrough much work, effort and patience. and which is so necessary for strengthening peace, stopping the arms race, furthering the detente.

Particularly disastrous for mutual confidence are the attempts to interfere in the internal affairs of the other side. And such attempts have now been elevated in the United States to the level of state policy. Seemingly nice-sounding motives are being chosen for them: "human rights", "humanism", "defence of freedom". But actually we have here the selfsame designs to undermine the socialist system that our people were compelled to encounter in this or that form beginning with 1917.

After all, there were previously, too, people who liked to attempt this. But one should remember well that Soviet society is monolithic and united, and that this cohesion cannot be undermined either by malignant propaganda from abroad, or subversive actions of Western special services. As a matter of fact, the advocates of interference in the internal affairs of the USSR know this perfectly well themselves. There is another side to the question: Such actions engender ever new doubts in the true intentions of the leaders of the United States and certain nations allied to it, poison the political atmosphere, complicate cooperation.

The latest intrigues, to be more exact "petty intrigues" of Washington around China in no way serve to strengthen confidence. The desire in itself to use the "Chinese card" in the global game is not at all new for American politicians.

However, up till now the U.S. leaders, it appeared, realised that this card could not be used without creating dangers to the cause of peace, and to themselves, for that matter, to the national interests of the United States proper.

However, certain leaders, who hold high posts in Washington, are so overwhelmed by anti-Soviet emotions, that, judging by everything, they are now dismissing these dangers. Such leaders close their eyes to the fact that alignment with China on an anti-Soviet basis would rule out the possibility of cooperation with the Soviet Union in the matter of reducing the danger of a nuclear war and, of course, of limiting armaments. They forget also that the Chinese leaders are playing here a game of their own. If the United States and the NATO countries are not loathe to exploit in their own interests, the difficulties, which have arisen in the Soviet-Chinese relations, the Peking leaders, for their part, have something quite different on their mind, namely to aggravate to the limit the relations between the USSR and the United States, to exploit this aggravation by no means in the American, but rather in their own interests.

Soviet-American confrontation, and still better war--this is the cherished dream of Peking. Maybe Washington will give a thought to this matter without rashness, coolly.

Every political shift, every change of policy, the more so if it affects the most important questions of contemporary international relations, must have their own reasons. How are the emerging changes in U.S. policy explained in Washington?

The official version of Washington, claiming, you see, that everything hinges on the Soviet Union, the socialist states, that it depends on their choice whether the development of relations will proceed along the road of relaxation or along the road of the "cold war" does not hold water. The authors of this version have nothing to back it up with. Instead of facts--emptiness. It appears that even super-naive people, capable of believing the inventions about "Soviet interference" in Zaire, will hardly agree that the United States should in reply torpedo, for instance, the detente, should go back to the "cold war", should complicate, if not more, the negotiations on strategic armaments limitation.

It is clear that the reasons for the changes in the American policy should be sought in the United States proper. And these reasons lie not in the sentiments of the American public, of the people of the United States, to which some Washington leaders like to refer, regardless of whether this is pertinent or not. All the latest public opinion polls in the United States speak of the opposite. Despite systematic anti-Soviet propaganda, the overwhelming majority of the Americans come out for an improvement of the relations with the USSR, for an earliest agreement at the talks on the limitation of strategic armaments, for the development of commercial and economic relations with the Soviet Union.

This is a manifestation of human common sense, understanding of the need of cooperation with the Soviet Union in the interests of the United States itself.

There is quite another reason, to be sure. It lies in the influence exerted upon the U.S. policy by the ever more vigorous activity of the motley and noisy coalition of the detente opponents. The so-called military-industrial complex, the extreme right-wing circles, the organisations of counter-revolutionary emigrants from Eastern Europe and other forces, interested in thwarting the positive tendencies, which took shape in the Soviet-American relations in recent years. Activation of these forces does not testify to the strengthening of their positions. It rather serves as proof of their growing fear that the advances made in the development of detente over a short space of time, if furthered, would make it irreversible. At the outset these forces did not take the relaxation of tension seriously.

After all, there was quite a number of high and low tides in international tension. But the situation became different after the agreement in Vladivostok, after subsequent advances towards the goal, which defined not only the contours of the next agreement on the limitation of strategic armaments, but brought closer the prospect of their reduction, after radical shifts in the political situation in Europe, after the signing of the final act in Helsinki. Called in question was everything habitual to those who had risen, gained strength, fattened considerably on the "cold war" policy. And they launched a counterattack in an attempt to take their revenge for the compelled retreat, for the suffered losses.

Also obvious are the reasons for which these forces are capable now of exerting such a big influence on the official policy of the United States. One of them is the tenacity of the vestiges of the cold war that is due not only to the fact that the cold war lasted for decades while detente is only several years of age. It should be remembered that the cold war is firmly linked with imperialist traditions of long standing, is a classical for capitalism reply, though a hopelessly obsolete and dangerous one in our epoch, to the changes in the world that it considers undesirable, a militaristic, violent reply that contradicts the aspirations of the peoples. Besides, the postulates of the cold war, that blossomed especially lavishly in the United States during the ill-famed epoch of McCarthyism, are beguilingly simple. One does not have to think about complex problems and search for answers to them because the source of all evil is the 'external enemy', communism, and it should be combatted by all possible means. As to those who think differently, they are accomplices of the enemy. To this day many American politicians are probably drawn to this dangerously deceptive simplicity, in any case those, who find it difficult or who do not want to grasp the complexities and diversity of the real world that surfaced the moment of fog of military hysteria and anticommunist psychosis began to subside.

It appears that the internal situation in the United States, too, is of considerable importance--the aggravation of the problems of inflation and unemployment, the poverty of millions of black and white citizens of the world's richest capitalist country and widespread crime.

The aggravation of these problems--and there is such a great desire to divert attention from them by means of artificially exaggerated external alarms--the government's inability to cope with them, the resultant accusations of it being "weak" and "soft" create for some American leaders an irresistible temptation to prove their "firmness". It is rather hard to display it, say, in the struggle against inflation or unemployment. But is seems to them that it is easier to transfer this "firmness", or at least to try to transfer it, into foreign policy.

It appears that "firmness" and "tough line" have become very popular words in America, are the latest vogue, especially on the eve of new elections to Congress and, in the more distant future, of presidential elections as well. A sort of competition has begun between some politicians. Who will take a "firmer" stand in international affairs, who will be "tougher" in talking to the Soviet Union.

It seems that there are politicians in Washington who find this to be an acceptable tactic that can be replaced as time passes with other, more moderate and considered tactics. But by far not everything that one can get away with in American domestic politics is acceptable in foreign politics. Here, as we see already today, the "tough line" has every chance to develop from a tactic into a dangerous and uncontrollable political course, acquire a force of inertia that it is difficult to overcome, and evoke in the world a corresponding counteraction. And payment for error in the event of such a turn in events will be measures not simply by the drop of somebody's popularity. It threatens to take the form of new costly spirals of the arms race, political crises, growth of the tax burden, and maybe even worse consequences, including for the people of the United States.

Of course, firmness and courage are qualities that any politician will find useful, but only when they are directed at good aims, are combined with political wisdom, with ability to guide oneself by supreme interests and to separate them from petty, transient advantages, ability and desire to peer into the future, to assess in advance the consequences of one's present-day actions. Likewise, courage in politics is by no means an equivalent of bravado, readiness to resort to strong expressions and wielding a club. Political courage is different. It is in the ability to outline and consistently implement a principled political course, in the ability to control one's emotions, to display restraint without fearing the heckling of political opportunists and not falling for the advice of adventures.

The changes in Washington's policy are beginning to give rise to apprehensions in America itself and in countries allied with it. What will be the consequences of the policy now pursued by President Carter, where to is he leading his country and the entire "Atlantic community" for that matter--these questions are appearing all the time on the pages of the Western press. Also expanding is criticism of Washington's foreign policy--the threats with which it is fraught, the danger of return to the cold war and aggravation of international tension give rise to mounting concern and alarm.

The world public is concerned also by the following question: How will the Soviet Union respond to the toughening of the American policy? This question acquires the greater topicality, the more obvious becomes the insufficiently considered and at times openly provocative nature of many actions undertaken by the United States.

This applies in particular to attempts to draw our country into new rounds of the arms race, to the political wrangling in the spirit of the cold war, to the scaling down of economic and cultural ties, and so forth. The plan of those who inspire such actions is very transparent: They would like not only to undermine detente, but also to do this as far as possible through others. They will not be able however to absolve themselves of responsibility for this.

The Soviet Union is not intending to assist the authors of such plans. Our people has seen too much and experienced too much to give in to pressure, to retreat before sabre rattling. It chose the road of peace and will not allow any one to push it off this road. We are not accepting the invitation to join the funeral of detente and of the hopes of millions of people for a peaceful future, for a possibility of a life worthy of man for themselves and their children.

Detente, the struggle for peace and disarmament have proved their great vital force and have the broadest support of the peoples. The Soviet Union and the other countries of socialism are fully resolved to conduct a consistent and stubborn struggle for them - along all directions and first of all along such a direction as the limitation and reduction of armaments. Speaking recently in Czechoslovakia L.I. Brezhnev said: "The socialist countries have worked hard to advance the cause of disarmament. And however great the obstacles may be, we will advance further together with all the champions of the policy of peace and goodneighbourhood, we will search for a reliable and full solution of this burning problem".

In the situation complicated by the policy of the United States, the Soviet Union confirms again its course at the relaxation of international tension and development of good, mutually advantageous relations with the United States, given that the United States also wants this.

Successful advance in this direction, that accords not only with the vital interests of both countries but also with the interests of humanity, the interests of peace in the whole world, requires mutuality, requires a responsible attitude to world politics also on the part of the leaders of the U.S. administration.

It is impossible to press for such aims proclaimed by the United States President as strengthening peace, limiting armaments and normal relations with the Soviet Union and at the same time to whip up an anti-Soviet hysteria, to try by means of attacks on the USSR to solve one's problems--both external and domestic, and even personal ones. The present course of the United States is fraught with serious dangers, dangers for the United States, for all countries interested in peace, for the entire course of development of international relations.

It is important for countries, statesmen and the public to understand the requirements stemming from the present international situation and act in accordance with them. No aims are more important in international relations than those of preserving and deepening detente, strengthening peace, and disarmament. Similarly, no aims deserve more: that all of one's energy and capabilities be devoted to the struggle for their attainment."

U.S. Reaction

LD1719022 Moscow TASS in English 1834 GMT 17 Jun 78 LD

["Dangerous Course"--TASS headline]

[Text] Washington, June 17, TASS--The article "On the Present Policy of the U.S. Government," published in the Soviet press, caused exceptionally great interest in the United States. The article is widely summarised by U.S. newspapers and news agencies.

The UPI describes it as an "important foreign policy statement." In this article, the UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL writes, the Soviet Union warns the United States that Washington's new tough line in Soviet-American relations is fraught with a relapse to the cold war. At the same time, the Soviet Union stressed that it does not accept the invitation to bury detente and that it has chosen peace and cooperation.

Western diplomats attach great importance to statements in this article, the ASSOCIATED PRESS notes. The article gave an exhaustive reply to President Carter's speech in Annapolis, a reply couched in resolute words.

The Washington POST writes that analysts of foreign policy problems in Washington will, undoubtedly, be alarmed by the warning in the article that it is impossible to press for such aims proclaimed by the U.S. President as strengthening peace, limiting arms and normal relations with the Soviet Union and at the same time to whip up an anti-Soviet hysteria, to try, by means of attacks on the USSR, to solve one's problems--both external and domestic and even personal ones.

The topicality of the article is confirmed by the criticism of the policy of the U.S. Government that intensified in the United States of late.

Congressional adviser on arms limitation problems Senator Charles Mathias, speaking in Boston, said that the Washington administration has not done anything to let the American people know that successful conclusion of the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks is vital. The administration has not made the case for SALT in a consistent and coherent way, the senator stressed. The field is left wide open to the opponents of the SALT agreement.

Unfortunately, President Carter's speech in Annapolis mystified where it sought to clarify. It did not correct the flaws in the administration's foreign policy, it exemplified them.

"It is vital that Americans see through the emotional smokescreen being laid down by those of limited vision. They should know that stockpiling more and more weapons of destruction in nuclear arsenals simply raises the probability that these weapons will be used," the senator said. "We are now at the most critical moment in the history of the world. The decisions we make now concerning our relationships with the other great nuclear power--the Soviet Union--will surely determine the ultimate fate of our peoples and of all nations".

The senator said that Soviet leaders candidly warned that detente does not mean an end to ideological and economic competition of the two systems and that the Soviet Union will continue supporting national liberation movements. "We must be prepared for this, he said. But we must also work as we have over the past decade to get rid of the cold war, to strengthen normal ties with the Soviet Union... There is no alternative to cooperative effort to halt the nuclear arms race"..

The escalation of attacks on the Soviet Union by represenatives of the U.S. administration was condemned by Chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on African Affairs Richard Clark. He said that such attacks play into the hands of those who declare against a strategic arms limitation agreement. The senator blamed Washington for inconsistency of its approach to the Soviet Union and for its inclination to regard events in Africa through a prism of rivalry with the Soviet Union and with Cuba, and not from the viewpoint of interests of Africans themselves.

The attempts of hawks in the U.S. administration to link the Soviet-American talks on strategic arms limitation with other questions was criticized by member of the House of Representatives Elwood Hillis. No matter what are our differences with the USSR, says the statement he issued, they must not affect our mutual effort for strategic arms limitation.

Senator John Culver said in Illinois state that an anti-Soviet hysteria that is being stirred up in the United States cannot serve as a rational basis for solving such an important question as formulating the policy of national security of the United States. This security, the senator stressed, can best be ensured only through ending the arms race, through blocking the dangerous trend of gradual sliding toward nuclear holocaust that threatens mankind's very existence.

The anti-Soviet campaign in the United States meets the interests of only reactionary forces and the military-industrial complex which gets profits of many millions of dollars from stepping up the arms race, said New York historian E. Scott. Washington's present political course threatens not only to undermine but even to frustrate the vitally important process of relaxation of international tension.

He said that some representatives of the administration, the U.S. press, bring down on Americans the stream of allegations distorting the policy of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. Intimidating the public opinion with the alleged "increase of Soviet military menace", with provocative statements about "Moscow's hand" in Africa, these representatives of the administration seek to play down the fierce criticism of the course of the U.S. administration, which is widening military interference in the affairs of Zaire, striving to suppress the national liberation movement of peoples by means of war.

We must be oriented at life, and not at death and hatred, American businessman H. Willens, member of the U.S. delegation at the special session of the United Nations General Assembly on disarmament, said at a press conference.

The military-industrial complex has scared the Congress into rubberstamping all the Pentagon demands for increase of allocations for the military spending, he said.

Speaking in New York, prominent U.S. public leader, director of the Centre for Defense Information, retired Rear Admiral Gene Larocque said that despite all the calls for peace, the United States has not yet done the decisive step in the sphere of nuclear arms limitation. We must learn to live in peace with the Soviet Union and to use all opportunities to avoid nuclear confrontation. The Soviet Union and the United States can and must build their relations on the principles of peace and mutual respect. Despite certain difficulties in relations between the USA and the USSR, the two countries must, undoubtedly, develop friendly mutually advantageous cooperation. In view of huge stockpiles of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction accumulated by both countries, there is no other alternative.

Kuznetsov Comment

LD181444Y Moscow in English to North America 0000 GMT 18 Jun 78 LD

[Text] In the United States, many officials and commentators are talking about the contradictory nature and unpredictability of Washington's foreign policy. Our news analyst Vladlen Kuznetsov comments:

Many people expected that President Carter would clear things up in his Annapolis speech, but what the American people heard was basically anticommunist rhetoric. It seems to me that the voice of restraint and compromise, so important in a nuclear age and for easing world tension, did not ring out bold and clear.

The President himself recalled the positive role the United States and the Soviet Union had played in the conclusion of the Austrian State Treaty, the Quadripartite Agreement on West Berlin, and on other major decisions pertaining to East-West relations. It would be natural to conclude that the two powers should, together with other countries, continue to act in the same spirit.

Now the Soviet Union is proposing to curb the arms race and to engage in concrete disarmament measures. These fresh peace initiatives, naturally, are also addressed to the United States, but Washington does not reply to them. It is ignoring this clear invitation to jointly take the path of easing international tension. The American President, instead of accepting this invitation, is posing artificially perceived options: The Soviet Union can choose between confrontation and cooperation, he said. The United States feels sufficiently prepared for either of these.

The Soviet Union a long time ago decided unequivocally on peaceful coexistence. One should recall that both East and West had decided in favor of international relaxation when they signed the final act of the Helsinki summit and the subsequent agreement on limiting the arms race. And there are also Soviet-American documents which indicate that the two sides have apparently made their choice in favour of peaceful cooperation. Under these documents the two sides pledge to be guided in their relations by principles of equality, mutual benefit and restraint. So why should we all suddenly return to square one and ask the other side to make a choice that it had already made a long time ago? We feel that the problem before us today is to maintain the chosen political course. This problem also consists of signing a second agreement on limiting strategic arms, SALT II. This would also eliminate other tensions in Soviet-American relations. The problem now consists of trying not to overburden Soviet-American relations with problems that have no relation to SALT II.

Many things happen in the world today in keeping with the principal demands of our time, resulting not from orders of some ill-wishing quarters. The liberation movement in Africa and in other parts of the world will continue to exist even if this does not suit the wishes of some quarters.

The existence of this movement is an objective reality and part of the progress of history. And it is quite out of place to be outraged at this reality and try to prove some Soviet and Cuban involvement in the events in Shaba Province. Hard as some people try, they have been unable to produce any concrete evidence of such an involvement.

In an article on June 17 about the present policy of the United States administration, the central Soviet newspaper PRAVDA pointed out that there appear to be politicians in Washington who consider toughness toward the USSR acceptable tactics, which can, in due course, be replaced with other tactics more moderate and circumspect. But a tough line has every chance of developing from a tactic into a dangerous and uncontrollable political course. The price for the miscalculation, if that should happen, would not just be a fall in someone's popularity. It already threatens to lead to expensive new spirals in the arms race, to political crises, a growth of the tax burden and even direr consequences, including consequences for the American people, too.

Even in the present atmosphere of anti-Soviet propaganda, the American public is able to preserve a sober and realistic view of world affairs. The news media and public opinion polls indicate that people in the United States oppose any new Vietnams on African soil. They favor international relaxation and they want to see the successful conclusion of the SALT II talks. They want to see normal relations with the Soviet Union. The latest moves of the United States administration are clearly at variance with these wishes of the public.

PANAMA CANAL TREATY CONTINUES U.S. 'POLICY OF DICTATION'

LD162239Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1358 GMT 16 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Washington, 16 June--TASS correspondent Vitaliy Gan reports that U.S. President J. Carter is leaving for Panama today to attend the official signing ceremony for the protocol and two treaties on the Panama Canal. These documents envisage the handover to Panama of control of the canal by the year 2000.

Both the canal negotiations themselves, which lasted 13 years, and the treaty ratification process in the U.S. Senate were yet another example of the traditional U.S. policy of dictation and crudest disregard for thenational interests and dignity of developing countries.

Under the pressure from U.S. reactionaries, the White House embarked on overt "arm-twisting" of Panama in an attempt to retain the privileges of a colonial power for the United States. Ultra-rightwing forces forced through the unilateral inclusion in the documents of amendments, which give Washington the "right" to armed intervention in Panama under the pretext of 'defending" the canal.

The "gunboat diplomacy", which is still a part of U.S. imperialism's foreign policy, has aroused indignation in Latin America, which supports the struggle of the Panamanian people for the unconditional return of their territory.

Panama City, 16 June--In connection with the U.S. President's forthcoming visit, the People's Party of Panama [PPP] has distributed a statement here in which it stresses that the conclusion and ratification of the canal treaties are the result of the Panamanian people's courageous struggle for their sovereignty and independence.

The PPP calls on Panamanians to demonstrate, during J. Carter's visit, their political and revolutionary maturity, their desire to achieve full restoration of national sovereignty and to show that the process of socioeconomic reforms being conducted by the O. Torrijos government enjoys the support of the majority of the population.

Commenting on the U.S. President's forthcoming visit, the newspaper MATUTINO notes that the amendments to the texts of the canal treaties by the U.S. Senate wound the dignity of Panama and seriously impede the path to its complete liberation. We will never forget, the newspaper writes, the concessions which Panama was forced to make so that the canal negotiations could be completed.

Student demonstrations took place in the Panamanian capital on the eve of the U.S. President's arrival. The participants were protesting against the United States dictation to the countries of Latin America.

Carter Arrival

LD170740Y Moscow TASS in English 0738 GMT 17 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Panama, June 17, TASS--President James Carter arrived for a two-day visit here. He will attend the ceremony of official signing a protocol and two treaties on the Panama Canal. The documents envisage the transfer of control over the canal to Panama by 2,000.

At the airport of Panama's capital, James Carter was met by Head of Panama's Government Omar Torrijos Herrera.

PHILIPPINES GOVERNMENT PROTESTS NEW YORK 'ATTACK'

LD152030Y Moscow TASS in English 2011 GMT 15 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Paris, June 15, TASS--The Philippines Government sent a protest to the U.S. State Department at the brutal and unprovoked attack by the U.S. police against the Philippines U.N. representation in New York. This was reported by the FRANCE PRESSE from Manila.

The report says that seven U.S. policemen broke into the Philippines representation and, threatening its employees with weapons, searched the trade and tourist sections, handcuffed one of the officials and took him to a police station where he was forced to listen to the abuse addressed to President of the Philippines Ferdinand Marcos.

This incident is not the first one when foreign deiplomatic missions in the United States were subjected to attacks carried out with the connivance and sometimes with the direct participation of the police.

GLEBOV ON PEKING'S IMPERIALIST SYMPATHIES, HOSTILITY TOWARD SRV

OW181908Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to China 1430 GMT 14 Jun 78 OW

[Glebov commentary]

[Excerpts] World public opinion is convinced that the Chinese top ruling clique's criticism of the so-called ostracism of Vietnamese bourgeois elements of Chinese descent is an absurdity. To tell the truth, people have always had the impression that the Peking leading group was not at all concerned about the Overseas Chinese. We should take note of the fact that Peking's leaders paid no attention to the persecution of tens of thousands of Overseas Chinese by the Cambodian authorities and that this persecution is continuing. Besides, the targets of persecution in Cambodia are not bourgeois elements who exploit the local residents but common workers.

This is definitely not a matter involving merely the Overseas Chinese. Peking is launching a planned provocation against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Mao Tse-tung, who worshipped imperialism throughout his life, concluded that imperialism was more powerful and has greater potentialities than socialism. Accordingly, he broke with the socialist camp in the latter part of the 1950's and early 1960's and led China onto the road of opposing the Soviet Union and other socialist countries and seeking an alliance with imperialism. China's fundamental change in international policy has influenced Peking leaders' attitude toward Vietnam and the heroic struggle waged by the Vietnamese people. When the struggle waged by the Vietnamese people was in its most critical stage, the Peking authorities collaborated with U.S. imperialism behind the backs of the Vietnamese people. The Chinese authorities first refused to form a united front with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries to concertedly support the Vietnamese people's struggle against U.S. aggression. Mao Tse-tung had also notified the Washington authorities that China would not actively support Vietnam.

The Peking authorities had tried to weaken Vietnam's defensive capability and obstructed the Soviet Union's shipment of military and other supplies to Vietnam through Chinese territory to the extent that certain people, under orders from Peking, detained whole trainloads of supplies. This naturally brought difficulties to the Vietnamese army and people in receiving materials and supplies.

Now the Peking leading clique is continuing its pro-American policy in dealing with Vietnam. It is well known that although U.S. imperialism and its accomplice in Peking did their best, the Vietnamese people still won a great historic victory. Some people in Washington and Peking are still ashamed of their defeat. It is no wonder that many political observers view the Chinese leaders' hostile act toward Vietnam as a kind of vengeance. This act was premeditated and committed after prior consultation with U.S. imperialists. On the other hand, U.S. imperialism is also increasingly using China as its political tool in Asia and other regions of the world.

However, the adventurists in Peking should remember that Vietnam is a socialist country. Justice is on the Vietnamese side. The powerful fraternal community of friendly socialist countries is on the side of Vietnam, and all progressive mankind sympathizes and supports Vietnam. The Vietnamese people, who have been tempered in the struggle to oppose the most powerful imperialist country, cannot be intimidated by any threat or provocation.

KULIK COMMENTS ON PRC THREAT TO TURKEY

LD161740Y Moscow TASS in English 1514 GMT 16 Jun 78 LD

["Speaking Different Languages..."--TASS Headline]

[Text] Moscow, June 16, TASS--TASS political commentator Sergey Kulik writes:

When it was learned that Chinese Foreign Minister Huang Hua was going to Turkey for an official visit, the Western press wrote that the main purpose of his trip, as it was seen in Peking, was to prevent the further improvement of Soviet-Turkish relations. At the same time the more sober-minded observers said that in the present conditions, when the ideas of goodneighbour relations and detente were increasingly asserting themselves in the European continent, it was hardly likely that there existed any influential forces in Turkey wishing a worsening of Turkey's relations with its great northern neighbour. As the London TIMES wrote on June 12, it was unlikely that Turkey would gladden the Chinese minister even by moderate anti-Soviet pronouncements since Turkey's relations with the Soviet Union were constantly improving.

Now, after Huang Hua's four-day stay in Ankara, it can be said that the Peking minister's attempt to use Turkish territory for arousing suspicion and hostility between the two neighbours did not really meet with understanding and support from those he met.

During the first day of his stay in Ankara Huang Hua accused the Soviet Union of "pursuing a strategy of encircling Western Europe" which, he said, was "the focus of struggle between the two super-powers for world supremacy."

"There has been a process of normalization in the general political climate in the European Continent in recent years," Turkish Foreign Minister Gunduz Okoun replied to the Chinese minister. Speaking at a dinner in honour of the Chinese guest he said that his government considers it "necessary to create such an atmosphere in the world that could put an end to all kind of regional conflicts".

The Peking minister asserted, as usual without any proof, that the Soviet Union is pursuing a policy of "aggression, expansion and subversion." The Turkish foreign minister called for efforts to ensure that "international relations rely more heavily on mutual trust and reality."

According to British press reports the Chinese side, taking into account Turkey's strategic position, also made an attempt to offer arms to the Turkish government and to persuade Turkey to increase its participation in NATO and its contribution to intensifying the arms race in the Middle Eastern region.

But on this question, too, the Chinese minister and his Turkish officials spoke different languages. "Turkey", Gunduz Okoun found it necessary to stress, "lies in a very delicate geopolitical region and takes great interest in the efforts made to achieve complete and general disarmament under effective international control. Total and general disarmament should cover both nuclear and conventional arms."

In contrast to Peking, which was trying to use Huang Hua's visit for its selfish ends, Ankara, during the Chinese-Turkish talks, showed interest in the development of mutually beneficial commercial and economic relations between the two countries.

Thus, during a meeting with Huang Hua, Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit expressed regret that the mixed Turkish-Chinese Trading Company, which was established way back in 1978, "has not yet done anything of substance."

Hence the appraisals made of the results of this visit by the Turkish public and press. The Istanbul newspaper GUNDAYDIN said that although the meeting between the Turkish leaders and Huang Hua, one "so desired by Western circles," took place--and it was by no means a coincidence that the Chinese minister arrived in Ankara on the eve of the official visit to the USSR by the prime minister of Turkey--the stories told by the Chinese minister about what a great danger the Soviet Union represents to Turkey produced no effect in Ankara. Bulent Ecevit said that "there is no menace coming to Turkey from the Soviet Union."

The newspaper POLITIKA, analyzing Huang Hua's pronouncements, says: "Peking has taken a place among those who supported the manufacture of the neutron bomb and thus came out against the peace forces of the world. It took the side of the United States in this matter, trying to prove the 'harmlessness' of this frightful inhuman weapon. The current leadership of the PRC declared American imperialism 'harmless' and openly joined the USA in the struggle against the Soviet Union. It asks for arms all possible visitors, including former Hitler generals now holding high positions in the FRG. It gives assurances that there is no reason for fearing a strengthened China because the latter may turn out to be an ally of the West. The latest developments have shown that the Peking leadership is a fervent defender of such organizations as NATO and the EEC."

Ridiculing the notorious theory of the "Three Worlds" that is being advertized by Peking, the newspaper says that the Chinese leadership comes out against the national liberation movements and holds a place among the imperialist powers. At present the PRC, POLITIKA says, "is a gendarme of imperialism in the East and has formed a united front with imperialists in the struggle against the liberation movements in Africa. This is evidenced, for instance, by the events in Zaire...all this answers clearly the question as from what world this 'guest' came to Ankara."

TALKS BETWEEN HUANG HUA AND IRANIANS NOTED

LD172112Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 17 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Talks between Iranian officials and Huang Hua, the PRC foreign minister, are taking place in Teheran. Under discussion is the situation in Zaire and the area of the African Horn, where Peking's policy tallies with that of the West, which is also aimed at enslaving the African peoples. The talks also touch on expanding the PRC's relations with regimes in the Persian Gulf which come out against progressive countries in that area. On his arrival in Teheran, Huang Hua stated that common aims are drawing China and Iran closer together.

MOSCOW SOIREE COMMEMORATES PRC WRITER LAO SHE

LD161219Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Jun 78 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "Memories of Lao She"]

[Text] On 12 June in the House of Friendship with peoples of foreign countries the Union of Soviet Friendship Societies and the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society held a soiree devoted to the 80th anniversary of the birth of Lao She--the outstanding Chinese writer, well known in China and abroad. Lao She visited the USSR many times and was a great friend of our country. [paragraph continues]

Many of his works have been translated into the languages of peoples of the USSR and enjoy the well-deserved love of Soviet readers.

Those who spoke at the soiree noted that in his works Lao She wrote with profound realism and love about his country and its people, spoke with sincere empathy about ordinary people fighting for their happiness and for justice, and angrily exposed the nationalist, petty bourgeois flaws in Chinese society.

In 1966 Lao She became a victim of the "cultural revolution" which was launched, as the Chinese press constantly stresses, "on the personal instructions and under the direct leadership of Mao Tse-tung." However, recently Peking propaganda has begun to assert blasphemously that Lao She played "an active part in the cultural revolution."

Present at the soiree were activists of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society and scientists and representatives of the capital's public.

More on Lao She Soiree

OW1611177Y Moscow in Mandarin to China 0730 GMT 14 Jun 78 OW

[Excerpts] Activists of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society, scholars, people from various circles in Moscow and admirers of Lao She's works gathered at the hall of the House of International Friendship in Moscow.

(Skolukhov), Soviet Sinologist, delivered an opening speech in which he said: In his 40-year career as a writer, Lao She made tremendous, valuable contributions to modern Chinese literature. He was a noted novelist who wrote many medium-length novels and short stories. He was a prolific playwright, political commentator and poet as well.

(Tivanov), professor of the humanities, made a report on the life and career of writer Lao She at the meeting. (Tivanov) said: It is hard to believe that Lao She, noted writer and admired representative of the Chinese people, became a victim (?in the early stages) of the cultural revolution simply because he was disliked by Mao Tse-tung and his ilk. What saddens people more is that Lao She, an apologist for humanism and fighter against any form of violence and torture, has recently been blasphemously called an active participant in the cultural revolution. His role as an active participant was hypocritically praised in the recent ceremony held at Papaoshan Cemetery during which his ashes were laid to rest. Lao She was a dauntless fighter against violence. When he saw the barbarous destruction of cultural objects carried out on Mao Tse-tung's instruction, he chose death as he protested these barbarous actions.

(Tivanov) concluded: I believe that someday the real Lao She will return among the Chinese people. His works will be as widely read in China as they are in the Soviet Union.

KULAKOV LEADS CPSU DELEGATION TO LCY CONGRESS

LD190808Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0735 GMT 19 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Moscow--A delegation of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, led by Fedor Kulakov, Central Committee Politburo member and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, left for Belgrade today, at the invitation of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia. The delegation is to take part in the work of the 11th LCY Congress.

SHAKHIN COMMENTS ON YUGOSLAV GROWTH ON EVE OF CONGRESS

LD181332Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0630 GMT 18 Jun 78 LD

[Text] The 11th LCY Congress begins in Belgrade on 20 June. Our correspondent Aleksandr Shakhin reports from the Yugoslav capital that the theses for the 11th congress quote specific figures illustrating the country's economic development. The rate of production growth in industry during the past 4 years amounted to 6.5 percent, and in agriculture it was more than 3 percent. The social product has increased six times during the 30 years since the war. Achievements are noted in economic stabilization and inflation reduction, in solving the employment problem and raising the people's living standard.

At the same time much still needs to be done about such issues as the increase in production losses and the cost of living and the country's balance of payments deficit. As it happens, the solution of these problems is helped to a significant degree by strengthening economic links with other socialist countries. In recent years Yugoslavia has taken an active part in the international division of labor within the CEMA framework. The period since the 10th congress has been marked by active work on the part of the League of Communists and the Yugoslav Government in the foreign policy field. Pursuing a peace-loving policy of nonalinement, socialist Yugoslavia supports the deepening of the detente process, an early end to the arms race, and disarmament. A lot was done to make the Belgrade Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe as effective as possible, so that the process begun in Helsinki might continue.

Yugoslavia's many contacts with the Soviet Union are growing stronger and developing. The pre-congress documents stress that the frank and pithy talks between Comrade Josif Broz Tito and Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev in November 1976 and in August 1977 and the documents adopted as a result of the talks are a significant stimulus for the further development of Yugoslav-Soviet relations and cooperation and reaffirm the stability of the basis on which the relations of the two countries and parties are constructed.

On 20 June, 2,300 delegates will gather for their forum in the new Palace of Congresses on the bank of the Sava. They will represent the 1.7 million members of the LCY. Yugoslav communists are approaching their 11th congress having strengthened their organization and the unity of their ranks and having enhanced their leading role in society.

BULGARIAN COUNCIL OF STATE PRESENTS AWARD TO BREZHNEV

LD172007Y Moscow TASS in English 1919 GMT 17 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Sofia, June 17, TASS--The Council of State of Bulgaria published today a decree awarding Dimitrov prizes for socio-political, scientific and creative work in support of peace, democracy and social progress. The awardees are: Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet; Urho Kaleva Kekkonen, president of the Republic of Finland; Dominic Urbany, honorary chairman of the Communist Party of Luxembourg; Gabriel Garcia Marquez, the Colombian writer.

Zhivkov Congratulates Brezhnev

LD172008Y Moscow TASS in English 1927 GMT 17 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Sofia, June 17, TASS--Todor Zhivkov, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and chairman of the Council of State of Bulgaria, has sent the following message to Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

"Dear Leonid Ilich,

"Together with all Bulgarian communists and with all Bulgarian people I cordially congratulate you in a brotherly way on the occasion of the award of a Dimitrov prize to you.

"The prize awarded to you by the Council of State of the People's Republic of Bulgaria is an expression of our great respect for you, the leader of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and of the Soviet state, a worthy heir to and continuer of the great Lenin's cause.

"This prize is a recognition of your tremendous contribution to strengthening peace, security and cooperation throughout the world, your tireless efforts in the struggle of the peoples for freedom, independence and social progress. For millions of people throughout the world your name is a synonym and symbol of real love of peace and consistent internationalism.

"By this prize we pay again a tribute of respect to your indefatigable work to enhance the might, cohesion and influence of the world socialist community and the international communist movement.

"Our people inseparable link the flourishing of socialist Bulgaria with the ever deepening and developing Bulgarian-Soviet friendship. Your name, Comrade Brezhnev, is inseparable from the most fruitful period of Bulgaria's development, from the all-round cooperation and growing closeness between our two peoples, countries and parties. The award of the prize named after the deathless Georgi Dimitrov is a new expression of our appreciation of your inestimable contribution to this new stage in the development of fraternal relations and Bulgarian-Soviet friendship.

"I wish you, dear Leonid Ilich, good health, long years of life and fresh success in your colossal work to the good of the Soviet people and in the name of stronger peace, democracy and social progress throughout the world, in the name of the triumph of communism."

KARPYCHEV COMMENTS ON SOVIET-HUNGARIAN COOPERATION

LD142004Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0117 GMT 14 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Moscow--"Guided by the teaching of Marxism-Leninism, the CPSU and the MSZMP are finding more and more opportunities for intensifying the fraternal cooperation of the two states in economics, science, culture and other fields. In the interests of the peoples of both countries, the whole socialist community and the cause of peace." This is Anatoliy Karpychev's comment in PRAVDA on the results of the latest session of the Soviet-Hungarian Commission on Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation, held in Budapest recently. "The signed documents", the commentator writes, "set forth joint measures, the implementation of which will facilitate the further intensification of fraternal relations between our countries."

The intergovernmental commission thoroughly considered the state of affairs regarding the preparation of a long-term program for the development of specialization and production coordination in important branches of the economies of the USSR and Hungary. A discussion took place on the course of work at Hungary's first atomic power station, which is being built at Paks with the aid of the USSR. Proposals were approved for speeding up the introduction into the two states' national economies of the results of joint scientific-technical work.

The session emphasized the fulfillment of previously concluded agreements in the motor vehicle industry and in the production of building, roadmaking and other equipment. New agreements were signed on cooperation in the electronics industry and in the field of poultry farming. Measures were approved connected with this year's completion of the 750 kilovolt Vinnitsa-Albertirsa power transmission line.

The fraternal ties between the USSR and Hungary are growing stronger from year to year. The scale of cooperation can be judged from the figures for Soviet-Hungarian trade turnover, which will total R4.4 billion this year. Scientists from the two countries will work together on 161 projects.

The implementation of the plans for Soviet-Hungarian cooperation, rests on the firm foundation of the common aims and desires of the fraternal peoples and the principals of socialist internationalism.

[Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 June 1978 publishes on page 5 the above article under the heading "On the Path of Friendship." The PRAVDA text transposes certain passages and adds the following sentence:

["The success of the commission, and two sides noted, was promoted by the fact that in examining questions on the agenda, the decisions of recent CPSU and MSZMP congresses and the results of agreements at the highest level between L. I. Brezhnev and J. Kadar were regarded as of paramount importance."]

ITALIAN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS TO BE HELD 29 JUN

LD170946Y Moscow TASS in English 0810 GMT 17 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Rome, June 16 TASS--Elections of a new president of the Italian Republic to replace Giovanni Leone, who resigned on Thursday, will be held on June 29. This was announced today by Chairman of the Chamber of Deputies of the Italian Parliament Pietro Ingrao (ICP). He decided on this date after conferring with the acting president, Amintore Fanfani, and other political leaders.

Giovanni Leone handed in his resignation under pressure of demands by the communist and some other parties after articles had appeared in the Italian press accusing him of dodging taxes and being involved in the Lockheed scandal.

In accordance with the Italian Constitution, a new president is elected by Parliament within fifteen days after the resignation of his predecessor. The date of the elections is appointed by the chairman of the Chamber of Deputies.

SIXTH ANNIVERSARY OF WEST BERLIN 4-POWER PACT MARKED

LD161355Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Jun 78 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[V. Kukushkin article: "Precondition of Lasting Detente"]

[Text] It was 6 years ago, in June 1972, in the former residence of the Allied Control Council, that the ceremonial signing of the concluding four-power protocol took place. By this act, on behalf of their governments the foreign ministers of the USSR, Britain, the United States and France brought into force the four-power agreement on West Berlin.

This agreement, according to which West Berlin does not form part of the FRG and will not be controlled by it in the future, and the corresponding agreements between the GDR and the FRG and between the GDR and the West Berlin Senat laid a firm foundation for the normalization of the situation in a region that has been a hotbed of dangerous complications and constant disputes between states for over 20 years. The positive shifts at the center of the European Continent became possible thanks to the change in the correlation of forces in the world in favor of socialism, thanks to the loyalty of the countries of the socialist community to a Leninist course in international affairs and thanks to the coordination of their foreign policy actions in the broadest sense of the world. There is no doubt that the intensification of realistic trends in the positions of the governments of a number of Western countries also had a positive part to play.

The sum of agreements and accords relating to West Berlin is a sensible balance of the interests of all countries involved in them. The inhabitants of this city also obtain a direct and immediate advantage from this since this settles questions of West Berlin's mutual relations with the outside world. It is enough to note that t total of over 18 million people and approximately 5 million automobiles traveled to and from West Berlin in 1977 along the transit routes crossing the GDR's territory.

A vital task of the present time is the consolidation of the positive results achieved. Noting the importance of the continuation of this policy, the participants in the USSR-FRG summit meeting in May this year stressed in their joint declaration that "the strict observance and full implementation of the 3 September 1971 four-power agreement remains a vital precondition of lasting detente in the center of Europe and of the improvement of relations between the relevant states, in particular between the Soviet Union and the FRG."

It should, however, be noted that certain political circles in the West are making great efforts to violate the four-power agreement and thereby to retard the process of detente. It seems that under the influence of those circles activity is developing in West Berlin aimed at emasculating the agreements and accords reached, and at creating the impression that West Berlin is an FRG land. Answering questions put to him by VORWAERTS, the weekly of the Social Democratic Party of Germany, L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, observed: "At the moment we still frequently encounter attempts to circumvent the four-power agreement. Actions occur which demonstrate an actual reluctance to come to terms with the fact that this city is not a part of the FRG. All this contradicts the spirit of detente and renders the international situation more complicated."

Actions like this harm not only the population of West Berlin and the economy of that city. They also present a direct threat to the relaxation of tension on the continent of Europe. So that the West Berlin question may not cloud the political atmosphere, the strict observance of the four-power agreement by all the sides concerned is essential.

DANISH FOREIGN MINISTER CONTINUES VISIT IN USSR

Gives Luncheon

LD161312Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 16 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Andersen, the Danish foreign minister, today gave a luncheon in honor of Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister.

The luncheon was attended by Kirillin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, USSR ministers and other Soviet and Danish officials.

Andersen and Gromyko exchanged toasts.

Signs Economic Cooperation Program

LD170134Y Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 2100 GMT 16 Jun 78 LD

[Text] The Soviet minister of foreign trade, Nikolay Patolichev, and the Danish foreign minister, Knud Boerge Andersen, signed today in Moscow a program of developing economic and industrial cooperation between the two countries up to the year 1985. It is meant to deepen ties in many fields and increase trade turnover. There will be more cooperation in machine tool construction, energetics, engineering for the light and food industries, and it is also decided to build and modernize jointly enterprises both in the Soviet Union and Denmark. Knud Boerge Andersen said the program is of great importance for his country.

Ends Visit

LD181652Y Moscow TASS in English 1604 GMT 18 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Leningrad, June 18, TASS--Knud Boerge Andersen, the foreign minister of Denmark, who was on an official visit to the Soviet Union, today left for home.

This morning he visited Leningrad museums, made a trip to Pavlovsk, where he saw the palace and park ensemble. The Executive Committee of the Leningrad City Council gave a luncheon in honour of the guest.

SOVIET-BRITISH ENERGY COOPERATION PROTOCOL SIGNED

LD161900Y Moscow TASS in English 1830 GMT 16 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, June 16 TASS--A regular meeting in Moscow of the Soviet-British working group on energetics has ended with the approval of a cooperation program for the next three years. A protocol to the effect was signed by the USSR minister of energetics and electrification, Petr Neporozhniy, and the chairman of the Central Energy Board of England and Wales, Glynn Dngland.

Among the themes included in the new program are design and building of thermal, hydraulic and nuclear power stations, the creation of energy facilities in seismic zones and other extreme conditions. Another set of problems have to do with the design and construction of power transmission lines and the environmental consequences of high-voltage fields. The sides intend to continue cooperation in building powerful units.

Joint development, exchange of scientific and technical information and experts and symposiums are planned for 1978-1980.

The recent session was a jubilee one. Assessing the activity of the working group during the ten years of its existence, the heads of delegations described bilateral cooperation as constructive, mutually beneficial and promising.

They expressed hope that the scientific and technical links between the USSR and Britain would be even more fruitful in 1979-1980. That would contribute to more effective production, distribution and economy of electric power in both countries.

In the coming three days the British delegation will continue acquaintance with the power industry of the USSR. It is to visit large thermal and nuclear power stations in central Russia and the Ukraine.

The next session of the Soviet-British working group for energy is to be held in London in 1980.

FRENCH WARSHIPS TO VISIT SEVASTOPOL 19-23 JUN

LD170718Y Moscow TASS in English 0655 GMT 17 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, June 17, TASS--In accordance with an agreement between the Armed Forces of the USSR and France a squadron of French warships--the cruiser "Colbert" and repair shop "Rhin", flying the flag of Commander of the Mediterranean squadron of the French Navy Vice-Admiral de Bigault de Cazanove will reciprocate a courtesy call to Sevastopol on June 19-23, it is reported here.

U.S.-EGYPTIAN MILITARY COOPERATION CONTINUES TO EXPAND

LD181716Y Moscow TASS in English 1500 GMT 18 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Cairo, June 18, TASS--Egypt continues to expand military cooperation with Western countries, the U.S. first of all. During a 12-day visit to the United States by the A.R.E. war minister M.A. al-Jamasi, an agreement was signed on training Egyptian pilots to fly F-5 planes. The first ten out of sixty of these American-made fighter-planes will arrive in Egypt in the autumn. The Egyptian delegation asked Washington also for 3,000 armoured carriers. The U.S. agreed to supply Egypt with such carriers.

JOURNALISTS TO BE TRIED FOR 'DAMAGING EGYPT'S PRESTIGE'

LD171837Y Moscow TASS in English 1721 GMT 17 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, June 17, TASS--The office of the A.R.E. attorney general continues investigation in the case of M.H. Haykal, a prominent Egyptian journalist, former editor-in-chief of the newspaper AL-AHRAM and an associate of President an-Nasir, as part of a campaign to suppress the legal opposition. As is known, Haykal criticised in his articles the policy of the present Egyptian leadership, its desire to eliminate the gains made by the Egyptian people under President an-Nasir and to discredit the close friendly relations which then existed between Egypt and the Soviet Union.

Several more progressive journalists are to go on trial. Among them are Ahmed Hamrush, former leading commentator of the weekly ROSE AL-YUSUF, Salah Isy, who is known for his left views, as well as Ruad (?Negmi) the popular Egyptian poet and singer of political songs. All of them are facing a standard charge of "damaging" the A.R.E.'s prestige.

PAPER STRESSES IMPORTANCE OF IRAQI NATIONAL FRONT UNITY

LD171850Y Moscow TASS in English 1822 GMT 17 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Baghdad, June 17, TASS--TARIQ AS-SHA'B, the newspaper of the Iraqi Communist Party, has published an article titled "For Greater Confidence and Stronger Alliance Between Participants of the Progressive National Patriotic Front."

The Progressive National Patriotic Front (PNPF), the article says, is one of the biggest revolutionary gains of the Iraqi people. Its establishment in 1973 meant that a serious turn took place in relations between the Iraqi Communist Party and the Ba'th Party toward the elimination of the painful phenomena of the past in the interests of joint struggle with a view to deepening and developing the revolutionary process in the country.

The Communist Party and the Ba'th Party adopted a national action charter which was a joint program of forces belonging to the front. They agreed upon provisions and principles regulating relations between the front participants and their joint work for aims proclaimed by the national action charter, on the basis of respect for the political, organisational and ideological independence of each party. The importance of these provisions and principles was borne out by experience itself. The retain their importance to this day.

Proceeding from the above said, the article says, we consider it our duty to give explanations concerning certain aspects of our party's policy. The accusations levelled at us will not affect the objective character of the ICP's position, and its political line, which is permeated with a sense of responsibility for Iraq's progressive course and the conditions of the development of the existing national alliance.

The Communist Party is accused of "using the front as a stepping stone to a perfidious seizure of power." The groundlessness of such accusation is made obvious by the Communist Party's constant efforts to strengthen and broaden its alliance with the Ba'th Party. The second congress of the ICP (September, 1970) stressed that "the policy of national cooperation and a united front...flows from profound faith in the need and possibility of concentrating all national forces within a strong political alliance that will assume the responsibility for solving the tasks of the national democratic revolution."

The program of strengthening the PNPF, of consolidating our country's revolutionary course has become a central problem, the main element in the policy and activity of the Communist Party. This is reflected daily on the pages of the party press and in all the ideological and political work of the ICP.

The party, which is making efforts to ensure that the banner of the national front continues to fly high in Iraq's sky, cannot destroy what it created with its own hands and on which it educated the masses that follow its lead. Such a party, the article stresses, cannot use the front and the alliance in order to perfidiously seize power and to stab its allies in the back.

Earlier too various accusations were made against the Iraqi Communists. But it is for the first time that they are accused of allegedly resorting to all kind of manoeuvres, deception and perfidy in relations with its allies and comrades-in-arms, and specifically with the Ba'th Party, and of allegedly trying to concentrate power in their own hands through a military coup.

The Iraqi Communists have never resorted and have no intention of resorting to treachery in relations with other revolutionary forces. The Iraqi Communist Party and its members have made their contribution to the exposure and frustration of a number of suspicious actions and conspiracies, spearheaded against the rule of the Ba'th Party already in the period preceding the creation of the front. The Communists never spared themselves in the struggle against the reactionary rebellion in Kurdistan, and their blood mixed together with the blood of the Ba'thists and other patriots who upheld the independence of Iraq and its progressive regime.

The Communists regarded and regard their activities in the PNPF as part of the revolutionary experiment that is being carried out in the country. This position was confirmed in the resolution of the February (1977) plenary session of the ICP CC. It says, among other things, that the constructive approach to the work in the front's framework must facilitate the attainment of interaction among its participants.

This approach must foster in them a sense of community, a consciousness of fighting all together in the same trench against the enemies of the revolution--imperialists, Zionists and reactionaries.

The Iraqi Communist Party, says the article, carries out its activities on the basis of a collectively elaborated political line reflected in the party documents and in the pages of the party press. Questions of consolidating the national alliance and developing the PNPF are central in its policy.

The slogan "For Strengthening and Deepening the Revolutionary Process for a Socialist Orientation" was the main slogan proclaimed by the 3rd congress of the party. The March plenum (1978) of the ICP CC approved the report "Defence of the National Alliance and Deepening of the Revolutionary Process Is a Task for All the Progressive Forces of our People." The constructive criticism of individual aspects of our development contained in it is aimed at removing from the road of this development everything that retards the dynamic and effective advance, which obstructs the consolidation of the national alliance and the deepening of the revolutionary process.

The Communists assume that controversial questions, occasionally "unacceptable for their allies," may arise among the participants in the front. For resolving them they are prepared to hold businesslike and constructive discussions with the Ba'thists and other representatives of the front, as stipulated by the constitution and regulations for the activities of the PNPF.

In conclusion the article says that the Iraqi communists have exerted and will keep exerting efforts in defence of the revolutionary process. They are convinced that these efforts will be twice as effective if they converge more fully with the efforts of their allies--the Ba'thists and other progressive, national-patriotic forces under the banner of militant brotherhood, selfless and persistent work in the interests of the struggling Iraqi people.

U.S. CONNIVES WITH ISRAEL TO COLONIZE ARAB LANDS

LD1514347 Moscow TASS in English 1330 GMT 15 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Paris, June 15, TASS--Israel continues heading for the perpetuation of its presence on the occupied Arab territories. Ari'el Sharon, the Israeli minister of agriculture, who is also head of the inter-departmental committee for settlements, said in the Knesset that the building of six more Israeli settlements had begun on the Golan Heights, AGENCE PRESSE reports from Jerusalem. Two towns, Ortal and Katzrin, the agency says, are not being peopled. Plans are also being drawn up for the building of several more settlements on the Golan Heights.

Sharon's statement shows that the Israeli coalition government, made up of the Likud bloc, the National Religious Party and the Democratic Movement for Change, notwithstanding some show of "difference of opinion" at times, in fact pursues an agreed policy of annexation of Arab territories. Sharon himself acknowledged that between July last year and January this year the Israeli coalition government had founded 24 new settlements on occupied Arab land.

The Israeli Ministry of Defence, headed by 'Ezer Weizman, who, according to the press, had held a more moderate position than Sharon on this issue, now actively joined in the campaign of colonisation of the seized Arab territories. A programme for building seven more Israeli towns and a number of small populated centers was worked out in conformity with instructions from the Ministry of Defence. The Israeli radio recently reported that this programme had been submitted for consideration to the inter-departmental committee for settlements.

It is obvious that Tel Aviv would have hardly ventured to pursue such a tough annexionist policy without all-round Washington support. "Moderately" criticizing Tel Aviv, the United States administration at the same time factually connives at its course for the colonisation of Arab lands.

DIFFERENCES IN ISRAELI LEADERSHIP ON TALKS WITH EGYPT SEEN

LD172234Y Moscow TASS in English 2206 GMT 17 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Paris, June 17, TASS--According to reports reaching from Tel Aviv there are sharp disagreements within the Begin government concerning Israel's further policy at separate talks with Egypt. A number of ministers, including Foreign Minister Dayan and Defence Minister Weizman, suggested, in order to force through a separate deal, changing some of the formulations in Israel's position and making it more flexible so that President as-Sadat could save face somehow. The United States also insists on this in the belief that such cosmetic changes in Israel's demands will help not only strengthen As-Sadat's position but also draw Jordan into separate talks.

Prime Minister Begin, who is known for his stubbornness, is categorically against any changes in Israel's position. He is confident that Israel will have in any case to agree to the conclusion of a separate deal. As to the fate of As-Sadat as a person, it is of little interest to him. The present disagreements in the Israeli Government are also caused by the struggle for the premiership and for a re-distribution of ministerial posts. The local press says that if Dayan resigns, Begin's resignation will become inevitable. "The political parties", says the newspaper NATIN, "are already preparing for the government's downfall and are manoeuvring in search of a political alliance that would replace Begin's coalition."

ISRAEL INTENDS TO KEEP LEBANON IN ITS GUNSIGHTS

LD161205Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Jun 78 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Correspondent Ye. Korshunov report: "Tel Aviv's Maneuvers"]

[Text] Beirut--The occupation of south Lebanese lands by Israeli troops has been going on for 3 months, since mid-March. According to the Israeli Government, noon on 13 June should be regarded as the deadline for ending the occupation. The day before, reports came from the occupied territory that Israeli soldiers were removing several barbed wire entanglements and leveling roads with bulldozers.

However, on the morning of 13 June many Beirut newspapers published articles full of uncertainty as to what can be expected from the Israeli "withdrawal."

Moreover, the Israeli radio stated that Israel intends to hand over the positions it is leaving not to UN troops but to armed rightwing Christian formations, which, according to Israeli radio, "have no shortage of arms and material supplies."

Tel Aviv has again confirmed its intention of maintaining the notorious "security zone" along the border (on Lebanese territory, of course), entrusting it to the protection of rightwing Christians.

In the course of the 3 months the occupying forces have laid roads with tactical significance on south Lebanese territory, built bridges, and equipped positions controlling key points in the "security zone." They have joined the rightwing Christian enclaves in a single whole, stressing impudently that they are doing so for military purposes. Tel Aviv also states openly that it intends to continue to maintain three "windows" which it has opened on the Lebanese border, through which military and economic support is given to the rightwing Christians.

Tel Aviv opposes the introduction of Lebanese units into southern Lebanon. It thereby continues to flout that country's sovereignty by hindering the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 425, which calls for the withdrawal of the Israeli troops and the restoration of the jurisdiction of the Lebanese authorities in the regions occupied by Israel. All this testifies that Tel Aviv intends to continue to keep Lebanon in its gunsights and those of the rightwing Christians. The Israeli military clique will whip up tension in southern Lebanon, using it as a means of exerting pressure on the governments of those Arab states which today reject American-Israeli plans in the Near East and oppose the capitulatory line of Egypt's President as-Sadat.

'ARAFAT STRONGLY CRITICIZES ISRAELI PLANS FOR WITHDRAWAL

LD161405Y Moscow TASS in English 1344 GMT 16 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, June 16, TASS--The chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation Yasir 'Arafat has strongly criticised the so called "withdrawal of Israeli troops from the territory of southern Lebanon." Addressing a mass meeting here, he stressed that Israel's new maneuver is part of a plot by forces of imperialism, Zionism and reaction against the Palestine resistance movement and the national-patriotic forces of Lebanon.

LEBANESE VILLAGE IN RUINS AFTER ISRAELI AGGRESSION

LD161752Y Moscow TASS in English 1523 GMT 16 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, June 16, TASS--TASS correspondent Andrey Ostalskiy reports: Tens of thousands of peaceful people of south Lebanon, who were affected by Israel's aggression against southern Lebanon, staged in March this year, live in extremely difficult conditions. Their homes were destroyed, wells were filled with earth. There is a shortage of water and electricity in populated localities. Epidemics broke out in a number of places.

The village of Abbasiyah in the area of Tyre was flourishing several months ago. Its population grew cereals, oil-bearing plants, citrus fruit and vegetables. The people of Abbasiyah can hardly recognize their village now. The centre of the village was razed to the ground, 304 houses were ruined and the population now lives in tents.

About ten a.m. on March 19, the first Israeli shell sent from the sea exploded in Abbasiyah. It was followed by many others. The area was being extensively shelled for a long time from the sea and from the land. Then planes bombed the village for half an hour. When the bombing stopped, Israeli tanks arrived in the village. Then the Israelis herded the population to be interrogated and the people of the village say that their number dwindled. 109 maimed bodies and 15 wounded people were recovered later from debris. Two of the wounded people soon died.

The Israeli troops departed, but the village they left was actually destroyed. What was created by the work of many generations ceased to exist. The number of tents is insufficient to accommodate everybody and many people live among ruins in absolutely unhygienic conditions. Six other villages situated nearby were destroyed, too. Ruins and scorched earth, hundreds of people killed and wounded, such is the result of the Israeli invasion of the long-suffering Lebanese land.

ISRAELIS USE TERROR TO BREAK ARAB RESISTANCE

LD190922Y Moscow TASS in English 1850 GMT 19 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, June 19, TASS--The Israeli authorities are resorting to terror and repressions to break the resistance of the Arab population to the occupation regime in the Western Bank of the River Jordan. 26-year-old 'Ali Hamamara was sentenced to life imprisonment by the military tribunal in Jerusalem, his brother Ahmed--to 12 years. The standard charge against both was their being members of the Palestine resistance movement.

PONOMAREV, LEBANESE DELEGATION DISCUSS EGYPT-ISRAEL DEALS

LD171732Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1646 GMT 17 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, 17 June--A meeting has taken place in the CPSU Central Committee between Boris Ponomarev, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Karen Brutents, deputy head of the international department of the CPSU Central Committee, and a delegation of the Lebanese national patriotic forces headed by Farid Jubran.

The Lebanese representatives gave a high appraisal to the stance of the CPSU and the Soviet state in questions of a Near East settlement, their consistent support for the struggle of the Lebanese people and all the Arab peoples for national independence, and their social and economic progress. Noting the principled importance of Soviet-Arab friendship for the independent development of the Arab countries, they stressed that all those who hold dear the national interests of those countries cannot but come out in favor of further developing cooperation with the Soviet Union and against any manifestations of anti-Sovietism.

The participants in the meeting strongly condemned the attempts to substitute an all-embracing settlement of the conflict in the Near East with separate Egypt-Israeli deals under the aegis of the United States which are aimed at undermining the national liberation movement of the Arab peoples and at restoring the rule of imperialism and reaction to the area.

The sides gave a high appraisal to the creation by a number of progressive states and the Palestine Liberation Organization of the "Front of Confrontation and Steadfastness" to oppose the capitulationist policy. They also stressed the great importance of supporting and strengthening this front and of the further consolidation and solidarity of the Arab peoples and their progressive forces on an anti-imperialist basis.

The sides condemned the Israeli aggression against Lebanon. The conviction was expressed that a solution to the Lebanese crisis could be found by peaceful democratic means on the basis of broad national agreement with the participation of different strata of the population--both Muslim and Christian.

The Soviet representatives confirmed their unswering support for the just cause of the Arab peoples and their solidarity with the Lebanese national patriotic forces which are struggling in fraternal unity with the Palestine resistance movement against the intrigues of imperialistic and reactionary circles for a just solution to the problems of the Near East.

The meeting took place in a warm, friendly atmosphere.

SYRIAN PREMIER REITERATES SUPPORT FOR PALESTINIANS

LD172253Y Moscow TASS in English 2101 GMT 17 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, June 17, TASS--The Arab Palestinian people should be given an opportunity of restoring their legitimate national rights, including the right to establish their own independent state. Syria will continue to give all-round support to the Palestinian revolution, Syrian Prime Minister Muhammad 'Ali Al-Halabi said in an interview with the Lebanese weekly AL-MUSTAQBAL.

Speaking of Syrian-Lebanese relations, Al-Halabi said that his country has been coming out consistently for the unity and territorial integrity of Lebanon, and supports its lawful authorities in the person of President Sarkis. After reestablishment of Lebanon's sovereignty over the southern part of the country, we shall help the efforts to establish normal relations between the lawful Lebanese authorities and the Palestinian revolution, he said.

Touching on the problem of Arab solidarity Al-Halabi said that As-Sadat has weakened considerably this solidarity by his separate deals with Israel and his capitulatory policies. Now, the prime minister said, it it necessary to forge a single Arab position in face of continued Israeli aggression, to effect the economic integration of the Arab countries as the basis for solidarity and to pursue a concerted policy.

USSR CONSULTS WITH PDRY, IRAQ, KUWAIT ON INDIAN OCEAN

LD170016Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 16 Jun 78 LD

[Text] The Soviet Union and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY] held talks in Aden from 10 to 14 June 1978 on some issues concerning the limiting of the arms race and armaments stocks, in particular limiting and eventually reducing military activity in the Indian Ocean. On the Soviet side the talks were attended by Mendelevich, ambassador on special assignments, and on the PDRY side by Prime Minister 'Ali Nasir Muhammad.

The Soviet representative also held similar talks with the prime ministers and foreign ministers of Iraq and Kuwait. It is worth mentioning that the Soviet consultations with some Arab states took place during the special debate by the UN General Assembly on disarmament.

The Soviet Union, which adheres to the firm principles of its peace-loving foreign policy, is taking tangible steps for guaranteeing peace and security and for checking the armaments race and reducing military activity, for example in such a very important area of the world as the Indian Ocean. This is at a time when the NATO countries, in the shadow of the recent hysterical campaign in the West against the so-called Soviet threat, continue to increase their military presence in the Indian Ocean, which is strategically close to the explosive Middle East.

The Soviet Union has supported and continues to support by deeds, not words, the legitimate aspirations of the nations to live in peace and security.

EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

MATERIAL ON CYPRUS PRESIDENT'S ACTIVITIES IN GREECE

Arrival Statement

LD151430Y Moscow TASS in English 1327 GMT 15 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Athens, June 15, TASS--The president of the Republic of Cyprus, Spyros Kiprianou, arrived in the Greek capital. The press reports that he met with Konstandinos Karamanlis, the prime minister of Greece.

Making a statement, Kiprianou touched upon the stand of the socialist countries on the Cyprus problem. The president emphasized that "the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries supported and are supporting the position of Cyprus within the framework of the United Nations, pressing for compliance with the United Nations resolutions on the Cyprus issue".

Talks With KKE Leader

LD161726Y Moscow TASS in English 1340 GMT 16 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Athens, June 16 TASS--A meeting was held here between the general secretary of the Central Committee of the Greek Communist Party Kharilaos Florakis and the President of Cyprus Spiros Kiprianou. During the conversation President Kiprianou informed Kh. Florakis about the efforts made by Cyprus at the United Nations General Assembly in the search for a solution of the Cyprus question and the difficulties that stand in the way of the just struggle conducted by the people of Cyprus.

Kharilaos Florakis assured the president of Cyprus that the Communist Party of Greece fully solidarises with the struggle by the people of Cyprus for a united, sovereign and independent Cyprus. A just solution of the Cyprus problem can be achieved only within the framework of United Nations decisions, stressed the general secretary of the Central Committee of the Greek Communist Party.

SOVIET PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION LEAVES FOR GREECE

LD171414Y Moscow TASS in English 1023 GMT 17 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, June 17 TASS--A delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet led by vice president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Ivan Polyakov today left Moscow for Athens.

The delegation includes deputies of the USSR Supreme Soviet Lev Tolkunov, Ivan Lysenko, Nikolay Ponomarev, Valentina Kozhina.

PRC NAVAL EXPERTS IN ZAIRE; PLA STAFF OFFICIAL EXPECTED

LD181634Y Moscow TASS in English 1553 GMT 18 Jun 78 LD

[Text] London, June 18. TASS--A group of PRC naval experts arrived in the Zaire capital. According to the Zaire paper SALONGO, their task includes combat training of Zaire naval personnel in the framework of agreements on cooperation in the military field signed by the two states. A REUTER correspondent noted that a Chinese military delegation, headed by the deputy chief of the General Staff of the People's Liberation Army of China, Chih Hao-tien, is due in Kinshasa shortly. It is now negotiating in West European countries. The delegation will discuss military deliveries to the Zaire regime, a question raised during the stay in Kinshasa early in June of the PRC Foreign Minister Huang Hua.

INTERNAL SITUATION IN ZAIRE BLAMED FOR SHABA EVENTS

LD171658Y Moscow in English to North America 0001 GMT 17 Jun 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] As the fighting erupted in Zaire's Shaba Province with renewed force last month, the question "Who done it?" at first never seemed to arise. The answer was predictably simple and patently contrived. Why the Cubans, of course, and the Russians too. However, well in its 2d month of collecting so-called evidence for such an assertion the United States has yet to convince the world public, as well as some of its own officials, that this is indeed the case.

The search for such evidence conducted conscientiously by the CIA is almost pathetic. The agency's officials seem to regard it as a matter of prestige and a chance to vindicate the organization which has been held so low in the public rating. Meanwhile, the lack of evidence to substantiate any Cuban or Soviet involvement in the recent events in Zaire has led the world press to look elsewhere for clues to the Shaba Province trouble, namely in Zaire itself, and some of the latest findings have been both revealing and embarrassing. One of the most important among them is that the central African country is deep, deep in trouble internally, and the events that happened last month it had coming to it for a long time.

The situation is so volatile it could explode at any moment. It only needed a spark to ignite it, and sure enough, when the Lunda tribesmen who provided the backbone of the Kolwezi rebellion rose in arms last month, the trouble spread rapidly throughout the Shaba Province, threatening to engulf the whole country. And there is no way the Zairian regime could have stopped it without the highly efficient brushfire operation by the NATO countries, and primarily France and the United States. The Zairian Army itself, despite the tremendous financial support and expert training from the West, presently exists in name only. Actually, it looks and acts more like a bunch of marauding hoods which, as one wag said, serves only as an asset to the enemies of the current regime in Zaire. Gunto'ing soldiers of the Zairian Army have been reported to rob passers-by at gunpoint and even to stage massive forays against whole cities. So it is little wonder that when the people revolted in the Shaba Province the Zairian soldiers were more preoccupied with looting and pillaging than putting down the rebellion. And while the French and Belgian paratroopers were trying to sort out, higgledy-piggledy, what's what, the local soldiers simply went about their usual business, only with renewed vigor. And most of the civilian deaths among the white population which followed in the wake of the Shaba uprising are now said to be directly traceable to the questionable practices of the Zairian soldiers.

About as praiseworthy is the Kinshasa regime itself. In fact the widespread corruption and economic mismanagement prevailing in the country had been a cause of embarrassment to its Western supporters. According to a former CIA "spook," when the agency was trying to beef up the splinter groups in the Angolan civil war, it was sending them generous amounts of money. Entrusted with the job as a go-between was a trustworthy United States ally, the Zairian regime. The end result was that the money had never reached its destination. Meanwhile, as the search for evidence of the alleged Cuban and Soviet hand in Zaire continues the latest press revelations about that country may well prompt a look for truth closer to home. And what is happening now in Zaire is obvious enough and provides sufficient clues to the burgeoning crisis in that country. This is just the case, (?so) it does not take a disgruntled former American "spook", to write a book of revelations about it.

'CRIMINAL RABBLE' RECRUITED AS MERCENARIES FOR ZAIRE

LD181430Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0450 GMT 18 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Paris, 18 June--TASS correspondent Valeriy Shashkov reports: Some days ago police detained a certain Claude Basse for an attempted (?armed raid) on a post office in Paris. He had already committed several dangerous crimes. When he was searched, on him was found a letter closed with the seal of the Zairian Embassy in France which expressed a readiness to make use of his "services" as a mercenary. Basse's passport already had all the necessary visas. As it became clear, the criminal is no novice at such matters. In the middle of the sixties he had already spent several years in the ranks of mercenaries in the service of the Zaire regime.

The "Basse affair" has once more confirmed that a widespread recruitment is in progress of criminal rabble to take part in the struggle against the national liberation movement in Zaire. The creation has already been announced in Kinshasa of "shock troops" for the "defense of the southern province of Shaba." It is the intention of the Zaire authorities that their nucleus must consist of white mercenaries.

Hundreds of cutthroats from among the participants of the punitive expeditions of past years have already responded to the call of the Zairian Government. As the French journal VSD reports, a secret conference of mercenaries' bosses was recently held in Durban. It was "chaired" by the infamous Micheal Hoare, nicknamed "Mad Mike"--the very same Mike who told journalists in 1965: "I do not care whom I kill. In 20 months I and my boys have exterminated 5-10,000 blacks in the Congo." "Mad Mike" intends to gather together 2,000 cutthroats to send to the Congo. His recruiters are already actively operating in many towns in Western Europe. After Congo, Angola, Rhodesia, and Benin the white "gentlemen of fortune" will once again draw attention to themselves, this time in Zaire, points out VSD. The magazine stresses that the peoples of Africa bear a deep hatred for the mercenaries, whose criminal activity reminds on of the worst times of the colonial era.

AFRICAN PAPERS ON NATO THREAT, WESTERN INTERFERENCE

NATO Threat

LD161626Y Moscow TASS in English 1605 GMT 16 Jun 78 LD

["NATO Threatens Africa"--TASS headline]

[Text] Maputo, June 16 TASS--NATO countries shoulder full responsibility for the armed intervention in Zaire which is aimed at suppressing the popular uprising in Shaba province, writes the Mozambican newspaper NOTICIAS DA BEIRA.

The main aim of the military venture in Shaba, notes the newspaper, was to preserve the full domination of the Western monopolist circles over Zaire's economy, to continue the brazen plunder of its natural resources. To achieve this the so-called moderate African regimes were drawn into the conflict in which they served as a sort of cover for the intervention by NATO countries.

The developments in Shaba, the newspaper notes, provide one of the latest examples of NATO's expansionist policy in Africa. Ethiopia, which has embarked upon the road of progressive transformations, also became an object of imperialist interference. By continuing the military deliveries to the Somali Army the West is desperately trying to rekindle the conflict in the Horn of Africa.

NATO's hand is felt also in Angola where the activities of the FNLA, and UNITA and FLEC puppet groupings are being artificially sustained. Gangs of foreign mercenaries and the regular army of the Republic of South Africa are widely used in the struggle against the Angolan people. African public opinion, the newspaper writes, realizes that all the conflicts on the continent are the handiwork of international imperialism and its agents. It is necessary to give a resolute rebuff to all these intrigues.

Western Interference

LD161808Y Moscow TASS in English 1632 GMT 16 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Luanda, June 16 TASS--The Angolan newspaper JORNAL DE ANGOLA is sharply critical of the NATO countries' armed intervention in Zaire. There is no doubt, the article says, that the intervention in Shaba Province was launched on instructions from the USA, and fabrications by Western propaganda over these events hold no water. The far-fetched excuse on "saving the lives of Europeans" in Zaire is used first of all as a cover-up for what is the main aim of the West--to continue and broaden interference in the internal affairs of independent African states, JORNAL DE ANGOLA stresses. But the time has gone never to return when Africa was a continent obedient to the colonial powers.

PMAC SECRETARY DENOUNCES NATO INTERVENTION IN AFRICA

LD181125Y Moscow TASS in English 0947 GMT 18 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, June 18, TASS--Ethiopia is firmly and consistently guided by the principles of nonalignment, noninterference into internal affairs of other countries and respect for the U.N. and OAU charters, said General Secretary of the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Ethiopia Fikre-Selassie Wodgeress. He denounced the NATO's armed intervention in Africa, which is aimed at suppressing the liberation movements in the continent. This interference is a threat to peace and security of independent Africa, he said.

IMPERIALIST 'CONSPIRACY' AGAINST ETHIOPIA DENOUNCED

LD180926Y Moscow TASS in English 0911 GMT 18 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, June 18, TASS--International reaction with the United States at the head is making desperate efforts aimed at splitting the unity of independent African countries and destabilizing the situation in the continent.

This has been stated by Tesfaye Maconnen, member of the leadership of the Ethiopian Bureau for Organizing the Masses. He emphasized [that] the conspiracy of imperialist forces against Ethiopia has the aim to overthrow the people's democratic revolution and to establish full control over the Red Sea.

It is the duty of all progressive forces of the country, he said, to rally their ranks and to put up a united front in defence of its national unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity. He urged to launch a broad campaign to explain the international public the internationalist character of the Ethiopian revolution which consistently sides with all the oppressed masses in the struggle for freedom and social progress.

PAN-AFRICAN FORCE INTENDED TO UNDERMINE AFRICAN UNITY

LD181628Y Moscow TASS in English 1529 GMT 18 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, June 18, TASS--The NATO bloc attempts to knock together the so-called pan-African force aimed at undermining the unity of the African states, at creating permanent sources of tension on the continent. It is an attempt to perpetuate imperialist domination in Africa, writes the ETHIOPIAN HERALD. The Western powers are elaborating these plans just at a time when the African peoples' struggle for genuine economic and political emancipation has caused a sharp crisis of the policy of neocolonialism.

KENYANS CONCERNED OVER U.S. ARMS FOR SOMALIA

LD161806Y Moscow TASS in English 1659 GMT 16 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Nairobi, June 16, TASS--The public in Kenya is greatly concerned by reports on the U.S. Government's intentions to supply arms to Somalia. Somalia's neighbors know, writes the WEEKLY REVIEW, that Somalia's policy in the Horn of Africa has not changed much. The Somali leaders have not abandoned their claims to Ogaden and the north eastern districts of Kenya. Moreover, military operations in Ogaden are not yet over, since soldiers of Somalian regular Army units, disguised as "guerrillas", continue to stage armed provocations in the territory of Ethiopia. In these conditions, the WEEKLY REVIEW says, there is little doubt that American arms supplied to Somalia will soon find their way into Ogaden and will be used for carrying out the aggressive designs of the Somali leadership.

OAU STATEMENT SUPPORTS STRUGGLE AGAINST APARTHEID

LD171526Y Moscow TASS in English 1404 GMT 17 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, June 17 TASS--In connection with the second anniversary of the events in Soweto, the Organization of African Unity again expressed solidarity with the fighting peoples of southern Africa. A statement of the Organization of African Unity published here says that the heroic youth of Soweto made courageous defiance to the apartheid system and entire disgraceful Pretoria regime, thus opening a new page in the history of the movement for eradication of racism and racial discrimination in the Republic of South Africa. The Organization of African Unity made a call to entire international commity to give wide support to its struggle, to take every measure for complete isolation of the fascist Pretoria regime.

Luanda, June 17, TASS--Observing on these days the second anniversary of the events in Soweto, the patriots of the Republic of South Africa pledge themselves to bring the struggle against the criminal apartheid system to complete victory, representative of the African National Congress of South Africa in the People's Republic of Angola Max Moabi told a TASS correspondent.

Fearing future, the Pretoria rulers now step up a campaign of terror and reprisals against our people, above all against activists of the African National Congress in whom they see the main danger to their racist regime, he said.

The representative of the African National Congress pointed out that the leading Western powers--the United States, Britain, FRG and France continue their criminal complicity and patronage for the Pretoria regime and continue serving as a reliable support for the regime.

But the days of the disgraceful apartheid regime in the Republic of South Africa are numbered, Max Moabi said. An earnest of this is our determination to continue the struggle, constant solidarity with the South African people of the land of great Lenin, of other countries of the socialist community and progressive forces of the whole world.

ANTIAPARTHEID CAMPAIGN TO REACH CLIMAX 16-26 JUN

LD161155Y Moscow TASS in English 0940 GMT 17 Jun 78 LD

[Excerpt] London, June 16, TASS--Correspondent Brian Bunting reports: The international campaign against apartheid will rise to a climax between now and the end of the month as democrats inside South Africa and in all parts of the world commemorate two key dates in recent South African history--June 16 and June 26.

It was on June 16, 1976 that Vorster's racist police opened fire on unarmed school-children in Soweto demonstrating against the government's attempt to force them to use Afrikaans as a medium of instruction.

The children's protest had started months earlier, and had gradually developed into an all-out protest against the whole system of Bantu education and apartheid.

And it was on June 26, 1950, that South Africa's liberation organisations--the African National Congress, the South African Indian Congress and the African People's Organisation--joined with other groups in a general strike to protest against the passage of the suppression of communism bill outlawing the Communist Party.

From that year onwards June 26 has been known as Freedom Day.

Today in South Africa, June 16 and June 26 have become merged into one giant protest against apartheid repression, and plans are in hand to ensure that the people's voice is heard loud and clear. Already a week of mourning and abstinence has been called in Soweto to commemorate the shootings two years ago. The Soweto call has met with a response in all parts of the country, where the fight against apartheid repression is mounting in intensity. Strikes by workers on the mines and in factories are on the increase. Bombing attacks have been made on various targets.

KHARKOV ON RESULTS OF ASEAN MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

LD161912Y Moscow TASS in English 1810 GMT 16 Jun 78 LD

["ASEAN: Results of Ministerial Conference"--TASS Headline]

[Text] Moscow, June 16 TASS--TASS observer Vasiliy Kharkov writes:

[A] ministerial conference of the foreign ministers of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) ended today at the resort town of Pattaya in Thailand. The three-day meeting of the foreign ministers of Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and the Philippines was dominated by the questions of trade and economics. Among the topics discussed were ASEAN's economic links with the USA, Japan and the European Common Market. The fact that these questions were at the focus of the conference is to be attributed to a large degree to the economic difficulties in the Southeast Asian countries caused by the policies of the foreign monopolies which regard this region as a profitable place to invest their capitals, to sell their goods and obtain raw materials. Last year, for example, Japan exported almost 7 billion dollars worth of goods to the ASEAN countries and her surplus in trade with them exceeded 2 billion dollars. Seeking to smooth over the unfavourable impression in Southeast Asia of the self-seeking goals of the Japanese monopolies, Tokyo promised the ASEAN countries a major loan to finance the building of joint industrial projects. This promise, however, was qualified by a condition which is in fact political in character: The profitability of the projects to be built is to be determined by Tokyo and not by the ASEAN nations. A similar picture is to be seen in the ASEAN's relations with the USA which seeks to strengthen its positions in that region not only through trade and economic expansion but also through increased arms supplies. Increasingly, Washington and Tokyo take a common stand with regard to the ASEAN. The aim both of the U.S. desire to preserve its "military presence" in Asia and of Tokyo's economic promises is in the final analysis to involve the ASEAN countries in the orbit of the U.S.'s "New Asian Doctrine" in which Japan is to play an important role. All this lends increasing importance to coordination of actions by the ASEAN countries. The working out of a concerted approach to foreign economic questions, protection of the sovereignty and strengthening of independence in the face of the onslaught of the foreign monopolies. The ruling circles in these countries are aware of the fact that socio-economic progress calls for stabilisation of the political climate, the deepening of the process of detente and the establishment of goodneighbourly and mutually beneficial relations with all the states in the region. In a final communique the participants in the conference pronounced for peaceful settlement of the border conflict between Vietnam and Kampuchea and expressed regret over the aggravation of relations between China and the SRV which, as is commonly known, is a direct result of Peking's hegemonistic policy.

WHITLAM CALLS ON V.P. RUBEN, I. N. ZEMSKOV

LD161211Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Jun 78 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Text] TASS--V.P. Ruben, deputy chairman of the USSR Parliamentary Group and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet of Nationalities, has received the eminent Australian politican and statesman and member of the Australian parliament E.G. Whitlam. A friendly talk took place during which questions of the further development of relations between the USSR and Australia were touched on. E.G. Whitlam was also received by USSR Deputy Foreign Minister I.N. Zemskov.

Meets With Kuznetsov

LD161406Y Moscow TASS in English 1336 GMT 16 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, June 16, TASS--First Vice President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Vasiliy Kuznetsov received in the Kremlin today the prominent Australian politician and statesman, Member of Parliament Edward [as received] Whitlam.

Views were exchanged in detail on questions of Soviet-Australian relations and on a number of topical international problems.

USSR-AUSTRALIA SOCIETIES' COOPERATION PROGRAM SIGNED

LD171739Y Moscow TASS in English 1718 GMT 17 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Canberra, June 17, TASS--Under a cooperation agreement between the USSR-Australia Society and the Australia-USSR Society, a cooperation programme for 1978-79 was signed in Adelaide.

The document signed notes a successful implementation of the previous cooperation programmes which helped the public of the two countries to come to know better the history, the present-day life and culture of the Soviet and Australian peoples.

June Horn, chairman of the Australia-USSR Society, said that the cooperation programme signed offers a good basis for the further development of new contacts between the peoples of the two countries. She also said that all the activities of the two societies serve the noble aim of promoting understanding between the two peoples.

YASNOV, FIRYUBIN ATTENDS PHILIPPINE EMBASSY RECEPTION

LD161213Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Jun 78 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Text] Luis Moreno-Salcedo, Philippine ambassador to the USSR, has held a reception to mark the national holiday--Independence Day. The reception was attended by M.A. Yasnov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, N.R. Firyubin, USSR deputy foreign minister, and other officials.

ROMANOV ON PHILIPPINES' SOCIOECONOMIC REFORMS

LD161407Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Jun 78 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[N. Romanov article: "Philippines' National Holiday"]

[Text] On 12 June the Philippine people mark their national holiday--Independence Day. Some 80 years ago the Filipinos cast off the yoke of Spanish colonialism.

The Philippine pople achieved independence at a high price. Thousands of their best sons laid down their lives in the struggle, among them the outstanding poet Jose Rizal.

However, at that time the Philippine people were unable to enjoy the fruits of their victory. American imperialism came to replace Spanish colonialism. The foreign plunderers smothered the young Philippine republic. Only in 1946 in the atmosphere of the worldwide upsurge of the national liberation movement evoked by the rout of Hitlerite fascism and Japanese militarism did the Philippine people succeed in freeing themselves from the foreign yoke.

The path of strengthening the independence of the young state did not run smoothly. The former metropolitan country--the United States--imposed upon the Philippines a number of one-sided military and trade and economic agreements. Since the mid-sixties major changes have been taking place in the Philippines under the influence of positive shifts in the international situation and also in connection with the growth of national self-awareness. President F. Marcos proclaimed a program of socioeconomic reforms. The implementation of agrarian reform is under way; measures have been adopted to restore internal peace in the country and to combat corruption, to broaden the educational system and to strengthen the national economy. The Philippines Government has put an end to the one-sided orientation of the country's policies toward the United States and has activated ties with the developing countries and the nonalignment movement. President F. Marcos' official visit to the Soviet Union in May-June 1976 was an important event. As a result of the talks between the Soviet and Philippine leaders an agreement was reached on establishing diplomatic relations between the USSR and the Philippines and a joint statement was signed. In the 2 years that have elapsed since that time Soviet-Philippine cooperation has assumed concrete form in various fields and continues to gain strength. An exchange of embassies between the two countries has taken place. The Philippines has become one of the Soviet Union's major trading partners in Southeast Asia.

On the day of the Philippine national holiday the Soviet people send congratulations and good wishes to the friendly Philippine people. The further development of relations of friendship and cooperation between the USSR and the Philippines corresponds to the interests of both countries and the interests of world peace.

PRAVDA ON ANZUS MEETING, 'MILITARY INTRIGUES'

LD130844Y Moscow TASS in English 0820 GMT 13 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, June 13, TASS--ANZUS, just as NATO, is aimed at stepping up the arms race, writes PRAVDA correspondent in Sydney Oleg Skalkin. Commenting on the results of a meeting of the ANZUS bloc, he stresses that questions of widening the military activity of the alliance were in the spotlight of its attention. The commentary stresses, specifically, that Washington pledged itself to fully take into consideration the interests of its partner in ANZUS during the talks on the problems of the Indian Ocean held between the USSR and the USA. Such guarantees however, apply least of all to the real interests of the peoples of Australia and New Zealand. Suffice it to recall the events of the last months to see what precisely the U.S. military seeks to protect in this region. Suffice it to recall, for instance, that during the recent visit of Vice President of the United States Mondale to Australia, the sphere of operation of ANZUS that was so far regarded as the Pacific pact was spread also to the Indian Ocean. It is obvious that joint U.S.-Australian exercises to be held west of the fifth continent that are appointed for October of this year have the purpose of consolidating these claims, Oleg Skalkin writes. He writes that other facts, too, attest to intensification of militarist preparations. The U.S. naval base at Cockburn Sound in the west of Australia is being built to suit the requirements of vessels of the U.S. Seventh Fleet. Planes of the U.S. Air Force bound for Diego Garcia land for sometime now at Australia's Cocos Islands. A secret communication base at the north west cape is being reequipped for servicing Trident submarines that will soon appear in the Indian Ocean.

Spiralling of the arms race is the main purpose of all the talk about some special U.S. committments to allies in ANZUS, the commentary says. It is obvious that the policy of the United States in the Pacific and Indian oceans, the activity of ANZUS bloc undermine stability and security in a vast region populated by many hundreds of millions of people. The militarist intrigues threaten Asian countries whose peoples are interested in creating a peaceful and friendly atmosphere.

INDOCHINA

NOTE FROM VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT TO PRC REPORTED

LD172144Y Moscow TASS in English 2019 GMT 17 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Hanoi, June 17, TASS--A note of the government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to the government of the People's Republic of China was made public today.

It is said in the note that the Chinese Government has lately stopped almost completely its assistance to Vietnam and recalled most of the Chinese specialists, and abrogated a number of agreements signed between the governments of the two countries. These unilateral decisions by the Chinese side represent extremely serious actions. On behalf of its government, the Chinese side reiterated more than once that assistance to Vietnam is not a favour but rests on the principle of reciprocity. But shortly after the Vietnamese people won a full victory, China adopted a policy cutting across the traditions of friendship and solidarity between the peoples of the two countries. The excuse put forward by the Chinese side for motivating the withdrawal of assistance has nothing to do with the real state of things.

The party, government and people of Vietnam have always given great attention to strengthening solidarity between the peoples of Vietnam and China. Although certain disagreements between Vietnam and China persisted for many years, Vietnam did not take any actions that could damage this friendship. Proceeding from the interests of the two countries, Vietnam suggested that representatives of the parties and governments of the two countries meet as soon as possible to settle the question of the Chinese residing in Vietnam, but China turned down this proposal. At a time when the Vietnamese side displays goodwill in its approach and in its actions, the Chinese side, on the contrary, is giving uninterrupted all-round assistance to the authorities of Kampuchea which launched a border war of aggression against the people of Vietnam, slanders Vietnam by saying that it "attacks, persecutes and oppresses" persons of the Chinese nationality, is carrying on instigating propaganda to stir up among the Chinese people hostility toward the Vietnamese people. It has discontinued almost completely all its assistance to Vietnam, systematically spreads slanderous fabrications about the policy of the SRV.

All this indicates, says the note of the SRV Government that China is pursuing a policy directed against Vietnam, that it is trying to cause difficulties in peace-time construction in Vietnam in order to destroy the traditional solidarity and friendship between the two countries. The Chinese side fully bears the responsibility for the deterioration of relations between Vietnam and China to their present state. The Vietnamese peoples' friendly sentiments toward the Chinese people rest on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. Even when relations between the two countries were complicated, the Vietnamese people preserved revolutionary loyalty and the purity of these sentiments. In the same way now, despite difficulties caused by the Chinese side, the Vietnamese people will not let it arouse in them sentiments of narrow nationalism and will make every effort to protect the traditional friendship between the peoples of the two countries.

The Vietnamese people had travelled a difficult and thorny path before winning their present glorious victory. Carrying high the banner of national independence and socialism, following undeviatingly the course toward independence and international solidarity, cultivating a sense of reliance on their own strength and getting assistance from friends throughout the world, the document says in conclusion, the Vietnamese people will undoubtedly defend and successfully build a peaceful, independent, united and socialist Vietnam, will make a fitting contribution to the struggle of the peoples for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress.

MOSCOW GIVES TOKYO STATEMENT ON TREATY WITH PRC

LD191050Y Moscow TASS in English 1005 GMT 19 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Tokyo, June 19, TASS--The following statement to the Japanese government was presented today to Deputy Foreign Minister of Japan Keisuke Artie by the USSR's Ambassador to Japan Dmitriy Polyanskiy.

In accordance with statements of Japanese officials, the government of Japan has decided to resume negotiations with the People's Republic of China on conclusion of a treaty of peace and friendship.

It is, certainly, the matter of Japan itself how it should conduct its affairs with China, including in the case of the treaty. Meanwhile, it is natural that the Soviet Union cannot remain indifferent when the point in question [is] actions directly affecting its interests.

The Soviet side has repeatedly expressed its attitude to the substance of the projected Japanese-Chinese treaty, and it is well known to the Japanese government. It was specifically noted that the Peking leadership wants to sign with Japan such a treaty that would be spearheaded against the Soviet Union. It was also noted that in case of conclusion of a treaty with provisions directed against the USSR, the Soviet side would be compelled to make certain conclusions and introduce certain correctives into its policy towards Japan.

The events of the recent time show that the Peking leadership's hostility for the Soviet Union that has been made a matter of national policy, is assuming even more flat-out forms. China is intensifying the line of frustrating the process of detente, aggravating the threat of war and setting some states against others.

In such conditions, whether Japan wants it or not, but on signing a treaty with China it would objectively be bound with the Peking leadership's foreign policy line which runs counter to the interests of ensuring peace and security in the Far East.

We should like to express the hope that the government of Japan will display its due concern for the future of Soviet-Japanese relations and will take no steps that could raise obstacles to their development and discard all positive gains that have been attained in our relations through durable efforts of both countries.

HANOI PAPER CRITICIZES U.S. ARMS SALES TO KOREA

LD191018Y Moscow TASS in English 0945 GMT 19 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Hanoi, June 19, TASS--The U.S. feverish preparations for war cannot but be a cause of concern of the peoples of the whole world, the newspaper NHAN DAN writes in its editorial commentary today. After the advent to power of President Carter, who promised to "gradually withdraw the U.S. ground troops from South Korea," the situation in the Korean peninsula has been growing more tense with every passing day. The joint military exercises of the United States, Japan and South Korea and also provocative actions against the KDPR are carried out at an unprecedented pace. In mid-day, the commentary runs, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee has signed into law the bill under which Carter has the right to sell South Korea 800 million dollars' worth of weapons and military equipment. Secret negotiations on modernisation of the South Korean troops were held at the same time between the United States and South Korea.

The United States has assumed the right to give the green light to actions aimed at unleashing war, the newspaper writes. With the "troop withdrawal" thesis being still on paper, war preparation activities are being intensified, as never before. The joint military exercises and joint actions of the United States and South Korea against the KDPR imperil peace and security in the area of the Far East.

There is only one way to prevent the seat of war from flaring out in the area of the Far East. This way is through withdrawal of all troops and armaments and equipment of the United States from South Korea, through granting a possibility to the Korean people to carry out peaceful reunification of the country on the principles of democracy, without the interference from outside.

The Vietnamese people, the commentary runs, fully back the just aspirations of the fraternal Korean people, support the constructive proposals of the Workers' Party of Korea and the government of the KDPR on settlement of the Korean issue.

KONDRASHOV ON JAPANESE REVANCHIST SENTIMENTS

LD1611511Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Jun 78 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Final part of three-part article by special correspondent S. Kondrashov: "Japanese Impressions"]

[Excerpts] Tokyo, Moscow, the young Japanese interpreter puffed and groaned, shifting the simple Russian words around as if they were heavy books. The fat, pudgy secretary caught the words of his boss as they were spoken and took them down on a stenographer's notepad. The boss, seated in his magnificent office on the 46th floor of Tokyo's tallest skyscraper, spoke calmly, but his smiling lips trembled with hatred.

I had been warned that he was one of the diehards, but I had not expected such an object lesson in enmity toward our country and toward everything originating from our country.

There is no denying that hatred is a powerful emotion and an infectious one. Not even half an hour had elapsed before, I must admit, I was ready to hate this man and even his interpreter and devoted secretary who had, for some reason, grabbed some new pencils from the inside pocket of his jacket.

A typical dialog of the deaf was conducted in nervous, raised tones. He threw me piercing glances and parroted: "Japan is an independent country. I am a free man. I am a very free man...." It was as if I, a newspaper correspondent, had come to Tokyo with a secret assignment to encroach upon Japan's independence and to take this gentleman's freedom away from him, and that he had discerned this perfidious scheme in time, had avoided being taken unawares and had met me forearmed....

This was a comic episode but, alas, a symbolic one. Mr (Khogen) is the head of one of the numerous Japanese "promotional associations" in the sphere of international technical cooperation, and during the war he had been third secretary at the Japanese Embassy in Moscow. Then he climbed the rungs of the diplomatic ladder; the highest of these for him was the post of deputy foreign minister. Understandbly, I have no right or wish to meddle with his feelings, but in the post of deputy minister his enmity and prejudice were not simply a personal matter. They could have affected Japanese-Soviet relations, and it is easy to guess how. In interstate relations neither is hatred devoid of an infectious quality.

But, apart from that, it is unconstructive and harmful, prevailing over wisdom and common sense, scorning the consideration of objective realities and stewing in its own juice. This hatred leads not to goodneighborliness and peace but is fraught with enmity and war. Thumping his own chest, this bigot exclaims that there is no greater patriot than he, but in fact he renders his people a grave disservice....

I began with an extreme case. The Japanese and U.S.... this is a complex theme with numerous variations.

Interest.... curiosity.... cultural relations.... these are all part of the same theme: the Japanese and U.S. It is a theme with variations, commodity turnover at the level of $3 billion per annum--second only to the FRG if we consider Soviet trade with Western countries, Joint projects for the development of the timber industry in Siberia, joint detailed surveying (with the Americans) and working of the South Yakutia gas deposits, Japanese participation in the building of the very large port of Vostochnyy, close to Nakhodka, in Vrangel Bay.

Without an atmosphere of tranquillity and equilibrium, understanding is impossible. Meanwhile Mr (Khogen) and his ilk are creating a quite different atmosphere--one of public hysteria. There is no sense in oversimplifying the picture and making light of the infectious nature of their sermons.

There is a vast placard on the busy square in front of a Tokyo station. No, it is not a traditional greeting to arriving travelers. Inscribed on it are the words: "Let us conjure away the northern territories." What is meant is the Soviet Kuril Islands, conjure away, but not win back.... This is verbal revanchism. But the gospel apothegm--"in the beginning was the word"--applies not only to the legend about the creation of the world. In real history the word "propaganda" has frequently preceded and promoted the destruction of peace and has brought war closer. How many lamentable and tragic historical episodes have begun with a shout, and with bawlers and demagogs. And, after all, there are many of these clamorous placards in the Japanese Islands. It is not just the extremists or just the conservative forces that are guided by this hysterical "Let us conjure back!" It is taken for patriotism and for the defense of national interests....

Over 30 years have elapsed since the war but a conflict of trends continues in Japan, which compels one to ask himself the question: "Has Japan fully learned its lessons from history; has it found its place in the world?" On the one hand--need this be repeated?--the Japanese are realists. You can hear from them that geography itself--economic and physical--dicates to them the principles of good-neighborliness and peaceful coexistence. The threads which link them with the rest of the world are as important as an umbilical cord, and not just for the giants of the automotive, electronic or shipbuilding industries. Ordinary fishermen from some tiny village on the Izu Peninsula fish many hundreds of kilometers away in the Indian Ocean and woe betide them if, suppose, the Americans lose their taste for canned tuna fish. They are world citizens and, willy-nilly, this permeates their attitude.

This militarist impulse has been very evident in relations with our country. Even after World War II our relations with Japan were difficult. Under American occupation and effectively under American guardianship, Japan was first deprived of an independent policy and, second, was not very keen to resign itself to the results of the war.

For over 11 years, up to the end of 1956, there were no diplomatic and, essentially, no trade relations. For 33 years the two countries have been unable to conclude a peace treaty and recently the Japanese Government rejected out of hand the Soviet draft of a treaty of goodneighborliness and cooperation. Why? Is it not because forces who entertain the hope of "conjuring back the Northern Territories" still prevail?

Yet we are neighbors in the Far East and will so remain, and our economies, as Mr Ishida, head of the parliamentary group for Japanese-Soviet ties, rightly said, complement each other and do not compete with each other. Our $3-billion trade turnover is high compared with past years, yet only 2 percent of Japan's overall foreign trade turnover. And who would deny that in a political sense good Soviet-Japanese relations are a very important factor in terms of peace and stability in the Far East? Is it not time to begin a new chapter, to get our priorities right and create a climate of understanding and trust which will facilitate and not complicate the solution of awkward questions? However, relations are still emotionally volatile, sometimes they suffer setbacks. A recent example was the 1976 incident involving the Soviet military aircraft which made a forced landing at Hokkaido. During the incident Japanese official circles adopted a patently provocative position. Some people would even like to use economic ties in order to bring pressure to bear on the "territorial questions"--to the detriment of Japanese business.

The Japanese, who are not noted for their height, look with pride at their children --the younger generation is gripped by the worldwide wave of acceleration. In a way Japan itself can be likened to an accelerator, it has shot up economically, yet it has an immature, dependent foreign policy [passage as published]. Its key element is dependence on the United States, which plays three roles at once: political patron and mentor, military ally holding a "nuclear umbrella" over the Japanese Islands, and economic rival. This dependence is a fact which somehow or other has to be reckoned with. However, the trouble concerns the Japanese ruling circles apparent inclination toward those aspects of the American course which reek of the policy of confrontation than toward detente. The effect of this is considerable.

Recently the Japanese cabinet decided to resume the Japanese-Chinese talks aimed at concluding a peace treaty between the two countries. Tokyo is perfectly aware that Peking's main interest in the treaty is the clause on "antihegemonism," with its blatantly anti-Soviet bias. Tokyo has long been vacillating and continues to vacillate for this very reason. What then does the step which it has taken signify: Yet another manifestation of lack of independence, another example of following in the wake of somebody else's policy--Peking's this time, not Washington's? At this point the policies of Washington and Peking merge. U.S. Presidential Assistant Brzezinski recently went to Peking and ostentatiously played the "Chinese card" against the Soviet Union. Japan is being invited to join in this dangerous game. The person we spoke to, former Minister Mr Akagi, correctly assessed its significance: They want to place Japan in the position of an enemy of the Soviet Union. Incidentally, this is yet another test of maturity for Japanese foreign policy.

Another person we spoke with had been friends for 50 years with some of those at the state helm. He was distressed by the fact that in Japan today there are no people with the wisdom and authority to rise above the political situation--and demagogic hullabaloo--of the day and to solve questions from the viewpoint of historical perspective.

CASTRO COMMENTS TO WESTERN MEDIA ON CUBA'S AFRICA ROLE

Interview With U.S. TV

LD181624Y Moscow TASS in English 1545 GMT 18 Jun 78 LD

["Fabrications Exposed"--TASS headline]

[Text] Havana, June 18, TASS--The first secretary of the Central Committee of the Cuban Communist Party, chairman of the State Council and of the Council of Ministers of the republic, Fidel Castro, exposed false assertions by imperialist propaganda about Cuba's "interference" in African countries' internal affairs. In an interview for American TV companies he stressed that Cuba does not interfere in the internal affairs of any African country. We cooperate with progressive people's governments enjoying the support of the masses, and help them in the matter of defence against imperialist aggression.

Justifying the Cuban Government's position in regard of the events on the African continent, Fidel Castro pointed out that Cuba wishes Angola peace, comes out against conflicts between African countries and believes that the main problems of Africa are connected with the situation in the south of the continent: in Namibia, Zimbabwe and the RSA.

Fidel Castro said that Cuba has indisputable proof of recent contacts by CIA representatives with the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] splitter group, during which the Angolan counter-revolutionaries were offered aid by the U.S. Government. The Cuban leader called this the grossest interference in Angola's internal affairs.

Speaking of events in the Shaba Province of Zaire, Fidel Castro noted that allegations about Cuba's "interference" in the Zaire events were needed by certain persons in the U.S. administration, notably, by the Presidential Assistant for National Security Affairs Zbigniew Brzezinski, to justify Washington's intervention in that country.

Brzezinski, the Cuban leader said, is conducting a cold-war policy, a policy of international tension, of utilising the Peking's leadership's course against the Soviet Union, of linking up Soviet-American Strategic Arms Limitation Talks with problems having nothing in common with them. I think, Fidel Castro pointed out, that Brzezinski stands on an adventuristic, irresponsible position which is a danger to peace.

It is well known throughout the world, Fidel Castro stressed, that no sooner did American-Cuban relations start to improve than Brzezinski did everything possible to worsen them, utilising fabricated inventions about Cuba's actions in Africa. Such assertions serve as a pretext for the U.S. Government in justifying its economic blockade of Cuba, which is of an inhuman and unjust character.

In conclusion Fidel Castro stressed that the Cuban Government is now concentrating its main efforts on solving internal tasks.

Comments in Italian Journal

LD161804Y Moscow TASS in English 1651 GMT 16 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Rome, June 16, TASS--The Republic of Cuba has no interests of its own in the African Continent. But the Cuban revolution and the country's foreign policy are internationalist in character.

Therefore, Cuba considers it its duty to help revolutionary, national liberation movements in the world, Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and chairman of the Council of State and the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba, said in an interview with the Italian magazine EPOCA.

From the very beginning Cuba was helping the people of Angola in their struggle for national independence. This assistance was given at the request of the MPLOA-workers' party of Angola. Then, Castro went on, the reactionary South African regime and Zaire launched an aggression against Angola and seized a considerable part of its territory. To stop this aggression and to defend the independence of the Angolan people, Cuba, meeting the request of the government of that African country, sent its army units there.

Fidel Castro stressed that Cuba is pursuing an independent foreign policy and categorically rejected all accusations by certain Western circles who allege that Cuba is "Moscow's hand" in Africa. He said that the Soviet and Cuban peoples are bound by strong ties of friendship. Discharging their internationalist duty, they render together assistance to national liberation movements.

F. Castro said that since the victory of the Cuban revolution great changes have taken place in the world, and the national liberation movements have gained strength. Despite all its attempts to stage a counter-offensive, neocolonialism is losing its positions one after another. The struggle of the peoples of South East Asia, especially of Vietnam, for freedom and against American imperialism was successful. In conclusion F. Castro condemned China's attempts to break the unity of the international communist and working class movement.

COLOMBIA'S NEW PRESIDENT SEES MORE COOPERATION WITH USSR

LD161235Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Jun 78 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "On the Basis of Cooperation"]

[Text] Bogota, 12 June--One of the main directions of Colombia's foreign policy will be the development of relations with all peoples of the world who uphold UN principles and agreements, Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala, the Liberal Party candidate who secured virtual victory in the recent presidential elections in the country, stated. The future government of Colombia, he noted, will devote particular attention to the development of multifaceted cooperation with the socialist community countries, in particular with the Soviet Union.

J. Cesar Turbay Ayala gave a high evaluation of the Soviet Union's signing of supplementary Protocol II to the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America.

BREZHNEV GREETS ARGENTINE PRESIDENT ON HOLIDAY

LD092000Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 9 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Comrade Brezhnev has sent Jorge Rafael Videla, president of the Republic of Argentina, a telegram in which he transmits sincere congratulations and wishes for success and well-being to the people of Argentina in connection with Argentina's national day. In a reply telegram the president of the Repbulic of Argentina expressed sincere gratitude for the congratulations.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON FLIGHT OF SOYUZ-29

Background on Crew, Launching

LD161214Y Moscow TASS in English 1050 GMT 16 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, June 16, TASS--TASS correspondent reports from the Bayikonur Cosmodrome:

The new page was opened in the history of space exploration--the Soviet spaceship SOYUZ-29 was launched late in the evening on Thursday. The ship's commander, the 36-year-old Vladimir Kovalenok, in the autumn of 1977 commanded the first ship that was launched to be linked up with the Salyut-6 station. But this was not achieved then. "So we must work more persistently," the commander decided.

"This event showed clearly how great is Vladimir Kovalenok's willpower," said deputy chief of the Soviet Centre for Cosmonauts' Training Aleksey Leonov." His capacity for work is talked about in the Stellar town. All the 96 days of the previous space flight he worked as the commander of the stand-by crew in the group of ground support of the flight and was training at the same time together with Aleksandr Ivanchenkov for his second flight".

Aleksandr Ivanchenkov is an experienced engineer. A graduate of the Moscow Aviation Institute, he joined the cosmonauts' department when he was already a well-known aircraft designer. As member of one of the stand-by crews training for the joint Soviet-U.S. space flight Soyuz-Apollo he showed his profound knowledge of control systems. During many subsequent expeditions, he worked in the flight control centre in the group of communication with crews. A month ago, the commission gave him the highest mark for comprehensive examinations and recommended him as flight engineer for the spaceship Soyuz-29.

Three days before the launching, the crew made the last check-up of the ship to be launched and the last try-out of the module.

And so the time of the launching game-23 hours 17 minutes. The launching was coordinated precisely with the movement of the orbital scientific station Salyut-6 with which the Soyuz-29 spaceship with Cosmonauts Vladimir Kolalenok and Alexander Ivanchenkov, whose call signal is "photon", must be linked up.

Soyuz-29 Docks With Salyut-6

LD170149Y Moscow TASS in English 0146 GMT 17 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, June 17, TASS--The spaceship Soyuz-29 and the orbital station Salyut-6 today linked up. Since March 16 the station was flying in the automatic regime. The link-up of the Soyuz-29 spaceship was carried out at the docking unit situated on the station's transfer compartment.

Upon the boarding of the station by Cosmonauts Vladimir Kovalenok and Aleksandr Ivanchenkov, the manned scientific research complex Salyut-6--Soyuz-29 began functioning in terrestrial orbit.

The crew of the orbital complex will continue investigations and experiments started by Cosmonauts Yuriy Romanenko and Georgiy Grechko, including:

-Studies of the earth's surface and the atmosphere to obtain data in the interests of science and the national economy;

-Astrophysical investigations and experiments;

-Technical experiments aimed at studying possibilities for obtaining new materials;

-Medico-biological studies;

-Technological experiments and tests of the structure of the complex, of the on-board systems and instrumentation.

The on-board systems of the orbital complex are functioning normally. Cosmonauts Vladimir Kovalenok and Aleksandr Ivanchenkov started the implementation of a programme of tasks on board the Salyut-6-Soyuz-29 complex.

Academician on Cosmonauts' Weightlessness

LD161420Y Moscow TASS in English 1210 GMT 16 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, June 16 TASS--Irreversible changes do not take place in human organism as a result of three months' stay in weightlessness, so man can remain in space for such a period without danger. This conclusion was drawn by Soviet scientists on the basis of materials of the 96-day flight of Soviet Cosmonauts Georgiy Grechko and Yuriy Romanenko on board the orbital space complex Salyut-6.

These date will, undoubtedly, increase our knowledge about the possibility of man's prolonged stay in space and his role in future space flights, Director of the Institute of Medical and Biological Problems of the USSR Academy of Sciences Academician Oleg Gazenko told a TASS correspondent.

The academician believes that from the medical viewpoint the fundamental results of the flight of the main crew of the orbital complex is the fact that the cosmonauts preserved in space the capacity to work and implemented successfully the programme, manifesting interest and initiative.

After the flight, the cosmonauts felt the increase of the weight of their bodies and objects, the academician says. In the first days on earth after the flight, they had to exert considerable efforts to keep the vertical position. Their movements were not always precise which is explained by the change of the nature of these movements that formed in weightlessness. For several days the cosmonauts used for walking special prophylactic suits made expressly for the period after the flight.

These changes, however, were not unexpected since they were observed after the previous flight in some or other degree, Academician Gazenko said. The studies of the nature and rate of restorative processes in the period of readaptation are of no less value for science than the studies of the organism's reaction on weightlessness during the flight.

ROMANOV PRESENTS ORDER OF PATRIOTIC WAR TO LUGA 16 JUN

LD162248Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 16 Jun 78 LD

[Text] A festive session of the Luga Gorkom and Soviet of People's Deputies was held today in Luga, Leningradskaya Oblast. The session was devoted to presenting the Order of the Patriotic War, First Class, to the town. Comrade Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of Leningradskiy Obkom, who was warmly greeted by those present, addressed the session. To stormy applause, he extended cordial congratulations to the working people of Luga from Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Comrade Romanov then said, in part: [begin recording]

The conferment on Luga--among other glorious towns of our motherland--of the military order is new testimony to the high value put by the Communist Party and Soviet state on the devoted steadfastness and heroism of the Soviet people during the war years, and a recognition of great labor successes. [applause]

We go back in our minds to the terrible year of 1941, when on summer days like these, here on battered soil, units of the Red Army halted the fascist horde and shielded the town of Lenin. [applause]

The Luga line has entered the brilliant pages of the chronicle of the defense of the Neva stronghold. Presenting the Hero City of Leningrad with the Gold Star Medal, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev said: This was one of the most outstanding and staggering mass exploits by people and soldiers in the history of warfare. The course of the citizens of Leningrad and the valor of the defenders of the town of Lenin will forever hold a place in the grateful memory of present and future generations. [applause] [end recording]

Comrade Romanov turned to questions of the foreign policy of the CPSU and Soviet state and the struggle to insure stable peace on the planet and halt the arms race.

To prolonged applause, Comrade Romanov proclaimed the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decree on awarding Luga the Order of the Patriotic War, First Class, and pinned the award to the town's banner.

Speakers at the session warmly thanked the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, Soviet Government and Leonid Ilich Brezhnev personally for their high evaluation of the military and labor exploits of the people of Luga.

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